

<u>Position Title:</u>	Research Assistant
<u>Program:</u>	Neural Control & Computation Lab, School of Kinesiology and Health Science
<u>Contract Term:</u>	1-year term
<u>Annual Salary:</u>	\$36,000–40,000 (20 hours per week), plus 4% vacation pay
<u>Hours of Work:</u>	20 hours per week, worked as a four-hour session every weekday, Monday to Friday. Sessions normally fall between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm, with the daily timing set in consultation with the Principal Investigator. The position requires occasional flexible hours to provide care after surgical procedures or other veterinary treatments, and to respond to emergencies or unusual circumstances.

NEURAL CONTROL & COMPUTATION LAB:

The Neural Control & Computation Lab studies how the brain learns and generates skilled behaviour. We record from large populations of single neurons in non-human primates using high-density Neuropixels probes — including a recently developed capability for wireless, chronic recordings during naturalistic behaviour — and we link what we find to computational models of motor control. Our longer-term aim is to improve the restoration of arm and hand function lost to trauma and disease.

The lab is housed in York University's brand new, state-of-the-art Neuroscience Facility, which includes lab and office space for multiple neuroscience research labs and access to shared infrastructure such as MRI and CT. Our work is embedded in a collaborative community spanning the Centre for Integrative and Applied Neuroscience (CIAN), the Centre for Vision Research (CVR), and the Connected Minds (Neural and Machine Systems for a Healthy, Just Society) initiative. Toronto — Canada's largest and most diverse city — offers a dense concentration of neuroscience research and an incredible culture and environment.

We aim to make this an inviting and team-oriented place to work. We put real effort into clear communication and into treating each other with dignity, and we have zero tolerance for hostile behaviour or intimidation — we do not excuse misconduct, even from the most talented people. We are also committed to each lab member's growth, whether that leads on to science, healthcare, business, or government; we will help you get where you want to go while you are with us, and after you move on.

JOB PURPOSE:

This position supports our neurophysiology research with awake, behaving non-human primates. Working closely with the Principal Investigator, you will train animals using positive-reinforcement methods; prepare, run, and evaluate experiments; set up, maintain, and troubleshoot specialized equipment; and keep the materials and supplies our work depends on ready and available. You will help keep the lab running day to day, tracking inventory, restocking disposables, and taking on other research tasks as they come up. We want someone who contributes intellectually, and there are real opportunities for authorship on scientific publications.

MAJOR DUTIES:

- Behavioural and electrophysiological assessment of non-human primates in compliance with OMAFA and CCAC policies and regulations as approved by the York University Animal Care Committee
- Independently conduct, analyze, and evaluate research activities and study outcomes

- Train non-human primates using positive-reinforcement techniques to perform the behavioural tasks required by our research, and document individual progress across sessions
- Prepare, operate, and troubleshoot equipment and research procedures
- Provide appropriate written documentation of research procedures and outcomes
- Maintain inventory of laboratory disposables
- Assist in other laboratory and research functions as assigned
- Collaborate with and support Vivarium 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 and training
 - o Bachelor's degree in psychology, neuroscience, kinesiology, animal science, or a related field
 - o Registered Veterinary Technician and Registered Laboratory Animal Technician certifications are an asset
- Experience
 - o At least one (1) year as a research assistant or in a comparable role in a biomedical research setting; neuroscience research experience is a plus
 - o Experience in behavioural training of animals and performance monitoring
- Skills
 - o Handling and care of non-human primates
 - o Comfort working in a neurophysiology lab
 - o Working knowledge of Windows and MS Office, and a willingness to learn the data collection and analysis tools we use
 - o A solid grasp of the procedures, techniques, and regulations this work involves
- Success factors
 - o Work ethically, with close attention to rigour and transparency
 - o Be considerate of your colleagues, and proactive about asking for help when you need it
 - o Manage your own time and priorities, and keep the lab clean, organized, and safe

Application Instructions:

Please send a cover letter and resume to Jonathan Michaels at jmichae@yorku.ca. You can read more about our research at ncclab.ca and our full values statement at ncclab.ca/values. We will review applications as they arrive and continue until the position is filled.

This posting is for a current vacancy. Artificial intelligence is not used to screen, assess, or select applicants; every application is reviewed personally by the Principal Investigator.

The Neural Control & Computation Lab welcomes people of any race, ethnicity, religion, national origin, gender identity, gender expression, caregiver and family commitments, political affiliation, sexual orientation, and eligible age or disability status. We recognize that science has not offered equal opportunity to everyone, and we follow the

Equity-Minded Mentoring Toolkit in our hiring and mentoring practices. If you need accommodation at any stage of the hiring process, please let us know and we will arrange it.
We thank all applicants; only those selected for an interview will be contacted.