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TORONTO

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Postdoctoral Fellowship Position – Neuroimaging of Transgender Adolescents

Research Postdoctoral Fellowship in the Biopsychosocial Investigations of Gender Lab at the University of Toronto and the Margaret and Wallace McCain Centre for Child, Youth and Family Mental Health at the Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH)

CAMH is seeking an outstanding candidate for a Research Postdoctoral Fellowship in the area of gender diversity and neuroscience. The Fellow will work on a study fully funded by the Canadian Institutes for Health Research (CIHR) that longitudinally examines brain development among transgender youth using a variety of neuroimaging techniques. The research will further understanding of neural variations in gender diversity and describe brain development in relation to hormonal milieu, including gender-affirming hormonal therapies such as hormonal blockade and exogenous androgenic and estrogenic treatments. Key measures of brain development under investigation are (1) structural features measured by T1- and diffusion-weighted imaging and T1 relaxometry, and (2) brain activity as measured by resting-state and task-based fMRI. Study participants are recruited through private- and hospital-based services for transgender youth as well as from the wider community in the Greater Toronto Area.

The successful candidate will work closely with the project principal investigators (PIs):

- Dr. Doug VanderLaan is a CAMH Collaborator Scientist and the Director of the at the Biopsychosocial Investigations of Gender lab, which is located in the Department of Psychology, University of Toronto Mississauga.
- Dr. Meng-Chuan Lai is a CAMH Senior Scientist at the Margaret and Wallace McCain Centre for Child, Youth and Family Mental Health.

There will also be opportunities to work with others within the PI's collaborative networks within the Greater Toronto Area, nationally, and internationally.

Position Responsibilities and Opportunities

The Fellow will work collaboratively with a dynamic and passionate research team and directly with study PIs (Drs. VanderLaan, Lai) to direct and oversee this research. Responsibilities will include:

- Leading neuroimaging analyses
- Data management and quality assurance
- Manuscript preparation for publication and additional dissemination activities (e.g., conference presentations, outreach with local stakeholders)
- Participating in the development of new grant funding applications
- Providing training to study research staff and students
- Supporting participant recruitment and data collection alongside other team members
- Opportunities also include access to additional datasets to support writing and publishing research articles, grant writing mentorship, and support to develop an independent program of research

Skills and Qualifications required

Minimum qualifications:

- PhD in Psychology, neuroscience or cognate areas relevant to neuroimaging
- Proficiency in neuroimaging analysis in at least one modality, as evidenced by past involvement in neuroimaging research and publication record
- Experience conducting research with human participants
- Excellent interpersonal skills and ability to work collaboratively with others
- Very organized and detail-oriented
- Excellent written and verbal communication skills
- Demonstrated ability to produce academic papers and conference presentations

Preferred qualifications and skills:

- Excellent skills in neuroimaging analyses involving mass-univariate and multivariate statistical analyses with task-fMRI, resting-state fMRI, structural MRI and/or DTI datasets
- Previous experience supervising research assistants and students
- Previous training involving a leadership role in processing, analyzing, and publishing on neuroimaging data
- Knowledge and skills relevant to working with youth and their families
- Knowledge and skills relevant to conducting research in a clinical environment
- Knowledge and skills relevant to conducting research with gender- and or sexually diverse participants

Terms of fellowship

The anticipated start date is July 2023. The fellowship position is for 1 year, with the possibility of renewal. It is expected that the Fellow will also apply for postdoctoral fellowships for which they are eligible, for which support will be provided.

Salary is \$70,000/year plus a conference allowance.

How to apply

Submit the following to Dr. Doug VanderLaan at doug.vanderlaan@utoronto.ca:

- 1) A cover letter describing your fit with this position, your range of research interests, and career goals
- 2) Your C.V.
- 3) The names and contact information for three academic references

Review of applications

Review of applications will begin on March 15, 2023, and will continue until the position is filled.

About CAMH

The Centre for Addiction and Mental Health (CAMH) is Canada's largest mental health teaching hospital and one of the world's leading research centres in its field. CAMH is fully affiliated with the University of Toronto and is a Pan American Health Organization/World Health Organization Collaborating Centre. With a dedicated staff of more than 3,000 physicians, clinicians, researchers, educators and support staff, CAMH offers outstanding clinical care to more than 34,000 patients each year. The organization conducts ground-breaking research, provides expert training to health care professionals and scientists, develops innovative health promotion and prevention strategies, and advocates on public policy issues

at all levels of government. And through our Foundation, we're working to raise tens of millions of additional dollars to fund new programs and research and augment services.