

PhD student wanted for Project 'OnTime'

Departments of Chronobiology & Molecular Chronobiology



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Project information

The Departments of Chronobiology and Molecular Chronobiology at the University of Groningen (Faculty of Mathematics and Natural Sciences) have an opening for a PhD position, for the project **OnTime** funded by the Technology Foundation STW. The research is related to the human circadian clock, aiming to use chronobiology to improve sleep, health and quality of life. The scope of the project addresses the 80% of the population that uses alarm clocks to get up on workdays. Misalignment of the circadian and social clocks (a condition called social jetlag) results in sleep deprivation, performance deficits, and it impairs health and well-being. This project aims to identify recommendations and interventions (e.g. light or work-time flexibility) that help to realign the circadian and the social clock. The fact that large differences exist in how circadian clocks of individuals are embedded into the light/dark-cycle poses both challenges and chances in this scientific endeavour.

Job description

The successful candidate will assist in the daily management of the research protocols. Although work-schedules will be very flexible, they will include unconventional working hours (e.g. weekends) as dictated by the experiments. Principle Investigators of this project are Martha Meroo and Till Roenneberg.

Requirements

- a completed (or nearly completed) degree in Psychology, Neuroscience, Biology or related disciplines.
- enthusiasm for experimental research,, interdisciplinary approaches and project management
- a flexible, creative, socially competent and communicative personality
- experience with human studies as well as spoken and written English are essential

Experience with and/or knowledge of the following topics would be desirable:

- statistics, data mining, studies/experimental work under 'real life' conditions
- Actigraphy recordings and wake-activity diaries/logs
- computer modelling development
- analysis and implementation of questionnaires sleep & circadian physiology
- human behaviour & psychology.

Information

Additional information about the vacancy can be obtained from

Dr. Thomas Kantermann t.kantermann@rug.nl

Conditions of employment

The University of Groningen offers an appointment for 1 year and will be extended for a period of three years which period should be finished with a Ph.D. examination. During the first year the gross salary is € 2042,= per month. This amount will increase to € 2612,= during the fourth year. After one year, the performance of the candidate will be evaluated to decide whether there is sufficient progress to expect a successful completion of the Ph.D. thesis within the remaining three years. A training programme is part of the agreement. You and your supervisor will make up a plan for the additional education and supervising that you specifically need. This plan also defines your teaching activities.

Application

Application consists of a letter containing your motivation for applying for this position, a description of previous relevant research experience, and a full CV. Applications that are incomplete or are otherwise faulty will not be taken into account.

Send applications **before July 10, 2012** to

Dr. Thomas Kantermann t.kantermann@rug.nl