



New call for applicants
Improving Children's Auditory Rehabilitation (iCARE)
FP7-Marie Curie Initial Training Network

UCL (www.ucl.ac.uk), with its central London base in Bloomsbury, is a welcoming, inclusive university situated at the heart of one of the world's greatest cities. The Research Departments of Developmental Science (<http://www.ucl.ac.uk/psychlangsci/research/dev-sci>) and Speech, Hearing, and Phonetic Science (<http://www.phon.ucl.ac.uk/shaps/>) are two of the largest groupings of researchers in the field in the UK. They are part of the Division of Psychology and Language Sciences (www.ucl.ac.uk/psychlangsci) within the newly formed Faculty of Brain Sciences. The **UCL Auditory Processing** group (UCLAP) focuses on understanding the links between auditory processing and language in typical and atypical populations (including children and adults with hearing impairment, dyslexia, Specific Language Impairment, Auditory Processing Disorder, and Auditory Neuropathy). We use a variety of research methodologies, including behavioural, acoustic, and neurophysiologic measures. The group offers an attractive scientific environment in an international team of scientists and clinicians, and access to state-of-the-art equipment, labs, and technical expertise.

We are seeking to appoint an **Early Stage Researcher (PhD student; 36 months)**, commencing June or July 2014, and no later than October 2014.

The post-holder will be a member of the FP7-Marie Curie Initial Training Network, improving **Children's Auditory RE**habilitation (iCARE), which comprises 10 European research institutes and 7 associated partners. The objectives of iCARE are (1) to provide training to create a new generation of researchers capable of exploiting the synergies between different disciplines to optimize spoken communication in children with hearing impairment, and (2) to combine research across disciplines to develop novel methods, training skills and procedures for improving auditory rehabilitation. The project will be based at UCL, but the post-holder will also be required to undertake some work and travel in other countries within the iCARE network.

Please find the description of the position and general information about the project below.

Marie Curie Early Stage Researcher (PhD studentship) position available at UCL, Division of Psychology and Language Sciences, Research Department of Developmental Science

We are seeking to appoint a three-year Marie Curie **Early Stage Researcher** to complete a **PhD** research project in the Research Department of Developmental Science at UCL, commencing June or July 2014. The post-holder will complete a project under the supervision of Dr. Lorna Halliday and Prof. Stuart Rosen, which will examine auditory processing and training in children with mild to moderate hearing impairment. The post-holder will have some scope to adapt the project based on their interests.

Your responsibilities:

- To complete all requirements of MPhil/PhD study at UCL, including conducting a research project examining auditory processing and training in children with mild to moderate hearing impairment.
- To participate in the iCARE network, including participation in network activities, and to study within at least one other country in the network.
- To carry out any other duties as are within the scope, spirit and purpose of the job as requested by the Head of Department.

Your profile:

- An undergraduate or masters degree in a relevant discipline (e.g Psychology, Speech and Hearing Science, Audiology, Neuroscience, or Electrical Engineering) that is equivalent to a 1st class or 2:1 standard in the UK system (essential).
- No more than four years of fulltime research subsequent to that degree (essential).
- You should not have been resident within the UK for more than 12 months within the 3 years prior to your start date (essential).
- Eligibility to work in the UK (essential).
- Eligibility for the UCL EU/UK MPhil/PhD fees rate. To be eligible to pay fees at the UK/EU rate, the applicant must normally be a national of a European Union (EU) country, or the relevant family member of an EU national, and have been ordinarily resident within the European Economic Area (EEA) or Switzerland for the three year period before the first day of the first academic year of the programme (essential).
- The highest ethical and professional standards in research and education and an interest in multi-disciplinary research (essential).
- Good verbal and communication skills in English (essential).
- Knowledge and experience of behavioural testing, psychophysics, electrophysiology (EEG; specifically, the ERP technique), statistics, signal processing, and/or the relevant scientific literature (desirable).
- Familiarity with scientific tools and programming languages such as MATLAB (desirable).
- Experience working with children (desirable).
- Mobility experience (desirable).
- Capacity to work in a team (desirable).

How to apply?

Applications for this position should be made online at <http://www.ucl.ac.uk/hr/jobs/> (ref number: 1404698). The closing date for applications is 11 April 2014.

Applications should include:

- A covering letter, including statements of how the candidate meets the eligibility requirements and the research project that is relevant.
- A curriculum vitae (including list of publications).
- Undergraduate and postgraduate transcripts.
- A one-page statement of research interests.
- The names and addresses of two academic referees.

Informal enquiries should be directed to Dr. Lorna Halliday (l.halliday@ucl.ac.uk).

General Information:

**Improving Children's Auditory Rehabilitation (iCARE)
FP7-Marie Curie Initial Training Network**

The objectives of improving Children's Auditory REhabilitation (iCARE) are:

- (1) to provide training to create a new generation of researchers capable of exploiting the synergies between different disciplines to optimize spoken communication in children with hearing impairment, and
- (2) to combine research across disciplines to develop novel methods, training skills and procedures for improving auditory rehabilitation.

iCARE is an international and interdisciplinary consortium from academia, industry and socio-economic agencies and offers a choice of **11 PhD and 3 postdoc** positions, starting **June or July 2014**. Each project is supervised by a multidisciplinary team of experts and will benefit from extensive training. Please contact one or more partners for project specific educational prerequisites. More details can be found on the iCARE website (<https://icareitn.eu/>).

Partners and topic:

KU Leuven (Leuven, Belgium): Prof. Dr. Astrid van Wieringen (astrid.vanwieringen@med.kuleuven.be)

- Temporal processing in children with unilateral HI.

KU Leuven (Leuven, Belgium): Prof. dr. Wim Van Petegem (wim.vanpetegem@kuleuven.be)

- Factors influencing e-learning.

RWTH (Aachen, Germany): Prof. Dr.-Ing. Janina Fels (Janina.Fels@akustik.rwth-aachen.de)

- Acoustic Virtual Reality for HI and Development of 'realistic' test procedures for children with HI.

LiU (Linköping, Sweden): Prof. dr. Björn Lyxell (bjorn.lyxell@liu.se)

- Higher-order (auditory-cognitive) remediation.

RUN (Nijmegen, the Netherlands): Prof. dr. Ad Snik (A.Snik@kno.umcn.nl)

- Optimizing auditory scene analysis for the hearing impaired.

UCL (London, UK): dr. Lorna Halliday (l.halliday@ucl.ac.uk)

- Auditory processing in children with HI.

UOM (Thessaloniki, Greece): Prof. dr. Areti Okalidou (okalidou@uom.gr)

- Speech processing cues in children with HI.

GAVLE (Gävle, Sweden): Prof. dr. Staffan Hygge (Staffan.Hygge@hig.se)

- Learning in different acoustic scenes.

COCHLEAR UK (Mechelen, Belgium*): dr. Filiep Vanpoucke (fvanpoucke@cochlear.com)

- Investigating listening situations by means of scene classifiers.
- Music remediation.

NOLDUS (Wageningen, the Netherlands): dr. Nico van der Aa (n.vanderaa@noldus.nl)

- Development of a new system to determine quality of communication.

Eligibility:

Marie Curie funding is intended to promote mobility of early career researchers within the research community. ESRs should, at the time of recruitment (a) have received a degree (Bachelor or Master's) that qualifies them for PhD training, and (b) should not have undertaken more than four years of fulltime research subsequent to that degree. In addition, they should not have been resident within the 'country of interest' (see individual projects*) for more than 12 months within the 3 years prior to 1 June 2014. For a full description of the eligibility conditions see:

<http://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/>.

An excellent 1st degree or degrees, good verbal and written communication skills in English, and an interest in multidisciplinary research are essential. At this stage applicants can express their interest and/or ask for additional information by contacting the individual partner(s). Mobility

expenses are provided in addition to a salary. Applicants should contact the individual project leads for information on how to apply.

*note that Cochlear UK is based in Mechelen, Belgium. Persons from the UK are therefore not eligible