

Carnegie Mellon University

Distinguished Post-doctoral Fellowship Auditory Cognitive Neuroscience

Barbara Shinn-Cunningham and **Lori Holt** are seeking a creative, energetic postdoctoral auditory cognitive (neuro)scientist to join their collaborative research team.

We encourage you to apply to the Distinguished Postdoctoral Fellowship Program (DPFP) through the Carnegie Mellon University Neuroscience Institute. The goal of this program is to provide support for exceptional early career scholars who will help develop neuroscience research at CMU, especially research that spans across research laboratories in different departments and even colleges, serving as a form of seed funding for new projects and collaborations.

Fellows will receive an annual stipend of \$55,000 (plus benefits) and a research/travel fund of up to \$5000 per year. The program is intended to bring in new scholars to the CMU community; researchers who are already in CMU laboratories are not eligible to apply. Up to two fellowships (renewable annually, typically for two years) will be awarded per year, depending on the applicant pool and available funding. Fellows will be encouraged to apply for additional independent funding to continue their work (as applicable), and will have access to administrative support as well as mentoring when developing proposals.

The position will involve many opportunities for professional development and cross-lab training. If selected for the DPFP, the fellow would join a growing and highly interactive Pittsburgh Cognitive Auditory Neuroscience (PCAN) collective committed to understanding human auditory behavior and its psychological and biological bases. Carnegie Mellon University's strengths are complemented by those of the immediately adjacent University of Pittsburgh. Together, the two institutions boast research strengths in human, nonhuman animal, and clinical approaches to understanding auditory behavior. The successful candidate will be welcomed into a thriving, interdisciplinary intellectual community. Researchers in this highly supportive environment seek to span disciplines and employ multiple methodologies in their research. Facilities include a state-of-the-art MRI facility, EEG, NIRS, and MEG systems, and large-scale, high-performance computing clusters situated in a highly collaborative environment.

We are looking for fellows who demonstrate:

- a creative, interdisciplinary approach to solving modern problems in neuroscience
- an ability to develop new methods to study brain, behavior, and how they are related
- the promise of seeding or promoting sustainable
- collaborative links between NI faculty research programs
- the potential for proposed research to lead to competitive external funding
- a commitment to promoting diverse, ideas, perspectives, and voices in our research community

Carnegie Mellon's Neuroscience Institute brings together researchers from across the University to conduct multi-disciplinary work to advance the state of brain science. The Neuroscience Institute comprises faculty from five of CMU's seven schools and colleges, harnessing the university's core strengths in cognitive science, computation, data science, biology, and engineering.

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If interested, please contact *Lori Holt (loriholt@cmu.edu) and *Barb Shinn-Cunningham (bgscc@cmu.edu) to develop an appropriate DPFPP proposal.

To apply for the DPFPP, applicants must submit a single PDF file containing (in order):

- A cover letter, describing the applicant's career goals, how the proposed work would prepare the applicant for their path, and how past experiences qualify them for the project (one page maximum)
- Proposed research (two pages, maximum)
- Applicant CV (two pages, maximum)
- Letters of support from two co-sponsors who are current NI faculty* describing the special qualifications of the applicant, the co-sponsor's role on the project, and how the proposed work relates to and expands or enables the co-sponsor's current research program (one page, each, maximum)

A selection committee comprising three current NI faculty and the NI Director will review applications. For full consideration, applications should be received by **March 30, 2020**. Please send to gbalbier@andrew.cmu.edu. Fellows will be notified no later than April 30, 2020.

Desirable qualifications:

- A PhD in neuroscience, psychology, engineering, or related
- One or more years of expertise in auditory cognitive (neuro)science; prior experience with human electrophysiology and psychophysics is highly desirable
- Broad experience with neuroscience or psychology literature; previous expertise with auditory cognitive neuroscience is advantageous
- One or more years of experience with coding, data analysis, or computational modeling
- Fundamental curiosity about how the brain coordinates auditory behavior, and a willingness to engage in collaborative research in a workplace that values intellectual playfulness
- Statistical and programming skills (e.g., Matlab, Python, R)
- Enjoyment of working with and teaching others; willingness to play a role in mentoring more junior researchers in the group
- Fluency in speaking and writing in English
- Demonstrated ability to write results for publication in the scientific literature
- Flexibility, ability to learn quickly
- The ability to work independently as well as part of a scientific team

Pittsburgh, home to Carnegie Mellon University, is consistently rated among the most livable cities in America. With low cost-of-living, a thriving restaurant scene, a wealth of outdoor activities, and an accessible cultural district, there are ample opportunities to cultivate good work-life balance while advancing your scientific goals.

We believe that equity and diversity make for better science.

We especially encourage candidates from underrepresented backgrounds to apply.

This program is made possible through the generosity of Henry L. Hillman and Kris Gopalakrishnan.