PhD Position: Perceptual and Cerebral Mechanisms of Voice Processing in Macaques

A new European Research Council (ERC) advanced grant starts at Aix-Marseille University, France, for 5 years. Project "COVOPRIM–A Comparative Study of Voice Processing in Primates" (www.neuralbasesofcommunication.eu/projects/covoprim), awarded to prof. Pascal Belin at the La Timone Neuroscience Institute, aims to compare the perceptual and cerebral mechanisms of voice perception in humans, baboons, macaques and marmosets. For this a broad range of methods will be used including ad-lib automated behavioural testing in social groups, anatomical and functional MRI at 3T and 7T, neurophysiological recordings as well as micro-stimulation and TMS.

A full-time PhD Student post is offered for at least 3 years specifically focused on behavioural testing and awake fMRI scanning in rhesus macaques. Applications of highly motivated candidates with interests in systems neuroscience, auditory sciences and neuroimaging are welcomed. The successful candidate will have a degree in Neuroscience, Computational Neuroscience, Experimental Psychology, Neurobiology, Biomedical Engineering, Biophysics or equivalent fields. He/she will have a keen interest in investigating the auditory system of non-human primates in a comparative framework. Methodological skills and previous experience in: behavioural experiments involving training of non-human primates, fMRI recordings and data analysis, knowledge in scripting and scientific programming, such as Matlab/Python, computational modelling are particularly valued.

Evaluation of candidates begins immediately. Candidates should contact pascal.belin@univ-amu.fr and provide a detailed CV, a motivation letter and the name of two potential referees before the closing date of September 1st, 2019. The appointment is expected to begin on October 1st, 2019 with a net salary between 1650-2000 euros per month depending on level of experience and applicable taxes.