Two funded Ph.D. openings to study the cognitive neuroscience of cognitive control

The Neural Dynamics of Control Laboratory (NDC Lab; www.NDCLab.com), directed by Dr. George Buzzell, has two openings for funded Ph.D. positions with a start date of Fall 2021. Broadly, graduate students in the lab will focus on studying cognitive control, its development, and relations to social behavior and social anxiety. Primary methods employed by the lab include EEG (ERPs, time-frequency, source-localization), computational modeling (e.g., drift-diffusion modeling), structural equation modeling, and machine learning approaches. (f)MRI is also a key method used by the lab. NDC Lab students have the opportunity to receive training in a diverse array of methods and analysis techniques, along with access to on-site high-density EEG, fMRI, and high-performance computing resources.

The NDC Lab is comprised of a diverse group of researchers and students committed to understanding how individuals monitor and control their behavior. At a basic level, we employ neural, computational, and behavioral tools to pinpoint the neurocognitive processes involved in cognitive control, asking how these processes develop across childhood and adolescence. At the applied level, we seek to understand how cognitive control development relates to social behavior and the emergence of social anxiety. Ultimately, our work has the capacity to provide unique insights into basic neural and developmental processes, while also informing policy or intervention work for families, schools, and clinicians. For additional details, please visit the NDC Lab website: www.NDCLab.com.

The NDC Lab is located at Florida International University in Miami, FL. It is jointly affiliated with the Center for Children and Families (CCF) and the Cognitive Neuroscience Program of the Department of Psychology. Located within a multicultural, metropolitan region, the Center for Children and Families, a Preeminent Program at FIU and the Department of Psychology, ranked 9th in the country for research funding, offers a stimulating research environment full of collaboration and networking opportunities.

All interested individuals, both domestic and international, are highly encouraged to apply. Students are encouraged to apply regardless of their specific course of undergraduate study (e.g., psychology, neuroscience, computer science, engineering, mathematics, physics), and a master's degree is not necessary. Moreover, the NDC Lab will not consider GRE scores. Interested individuals that are unsure of their eligibility or have other questions should reach out to Dr. Buzzell directly (gbuzzell@fiu.edu) to discuss further. The Neural Dynamics of Control lab is committed to building an inclusive and diverse team of researchers that reflects the world in which we live. Therefore, individuals from all backgrounds and identities are highly encouraged to apply. We especially encourage applications from individuals with backgrounds or identities traditionally underrepresented in STEM fields.

Interested individuals should send a brief email directly to Dr. Buzzell (gbuzzell@fiu.edu) as soon as possible to indicate their intent to apply. A full application will need to be submitted through the FIU web portal by Dec. 1, 2020; however, students should contact Dr. Buzzell by email before submitting their full application to begin a dialogue and discuss the application process. It is highly encouraged that students contact Dr. Buzzell well in advance of submitting their application to allow time for scheduling a pre-application Zoom call. However, students who receive notice of this opportunity relatively late should feel free to contact Dr. Buzzell up until the end of November.