University of Pittsburgh

Department of Sports Medicine and Nutrition
School of Health and Rehabilitation Sciences

Shawn D. Flanagan, PhD
Assistant Professor

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The University of Pittsburgh Neuromuscular Research Laboratory (NMRL) has an immediate opening for a doctoral graduate student research assistant. This is an excellent opportunity to join a DoD-funded team focused on neurobiological aspects of human performance, adaptation, and recovery. In addition to working in a state-of-the-science laboratory, the doctoral student will have opportunities to leverage world-class education and research experiences at the University of Pittsburgh.

Dr. Flanagan's current research uses a combination of causal and correlational techniques to better understand and improve brain-body interactions in humans *in vivo*. Our current efforts use various combinations of non-invasive brain stimulation, neuroimaging (EEG, MRI, fMRI, DTI), biochemistry, psychometric, and physical performance assessment techniques. Through collaborative opportunities with leading experts at Pitt, an enterprising doctoral student would also have opportunities to learn or expand their expertise into new areas.

We are seeking a curious, passionate, and flexible student with strong critical thinking and the potential to pursue independent and team-based research within the School and Health and Rehabilitation Sciences. Applicants should send: 1) a cover letter with summary of research experience and interests; 2) current contact information for three potential references; and 3) curriculum vitae including publications in PDF format.

Candidates must have: 1) master's degree in a neuroscience- or exercise physiology-related field with evidence of interest in both disciplines; 2) desire to work with human subjects/samples; 3) excellent English verbal and written communication skills. Publication record preferred. The successful candidate is expected to work independently and as part of a team, initiate involvement in laboratory projects, and have a strong enthusiasm for learning and developing new experimental approaches.

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A postdoctoral position is available at the Neuromuscular Research Laboratory to study neurobiological aspects of human performance, adaptation, and recovery. Our current work uses a combination of advanced causal and correlational techniques to better understand and improve brain-body interactions in humans *in vivo*. Examples of such techniques include non-invasive brain stimulation, neuroimaging (EEG, MRI, fMRI, DTI), biochemistry, psychometric, and physical performance assessments.

The successful applicant will play a central role in the development and execution of experiments and have opportunities to pursue follow-on / early career funding based on ongoing and planned research initiatives. Through collaborative opportunities with leading experts at Pitt, an enterprising post-doctoral researcher will also have opportunities to learn or expand their expertise into new areas.

Candidates must have a PhD with a strong background in behavioral neuroscience or neurobiology and a history of publication productivity. Proficiency in magnetic resonance imaging, transcranial magnetic stimulation, or electroencephalography is highly desirable. Proficiency with Matlab, R, Python, EEGlab, Freesurfer, DSI studio, Curry, BrainVoyager, Brainstorm, or FSL is desirable. The successful candidate is expected to have excellent oral and written communication skills, an interest in human research, and a strong inquisitive nature and initiative.

Salary and benefits will be commensurate with NIH and University of Pittsburgh guidelines. To apply, please email curriculum vitae, names and contact information of three references, and a letter stating research interests to Dr. Shawn Flanagan (sdf29@pitt.edu), Assistant Professor, Department of Sports Medicine and Nutrition, University of Pittsburgh. Applicants will only be contacted if invited to interview.