

## **Open Position for an Early Stage Researcher (PhD candidate)**

The chair for Biological Psychology, Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy (BioKlin) seeks a research assistant (early-stage researcher, ESR) in the area of social Virtual Reality. The research topics of this position are privacy protection matters emerging from cognitive and social factors and the users' emotional state. The research goals are evaluation and improvement of consumer acceptance, usage and usability of privacy protection solutions on the basis of innovative ecologically valid experimental approaches using virtual reality.

This vacancy is part of the EU-funded project PriMa (Privacy Matters, ESR12) and is a Marie Skłodowska-Curie Innovative Training Network. ([www.research-in-germany.org/en/research-funding/funding-programmes/eu-marie-sk-odowska-curie-innovative-training-networks.html](http://www.research-in-germany.org/en/research-funding/funding-programmes/eu-marie-sk-odowska-curie-innovative-training-networks.html)).

PriMa will train a next generation of researchers to define, investigate and implement solutions that ensure secure and efficient privacy protection whilst keeping the advantages of a digitalized society. All PhD students in PriMa will in general work on the analysis of privacy risks stemming from the digitalization of society, the protection of privacy against these risks, and the impact assessment of proposed privacy protection solutions.

Besides this vacancy there are 13 other open ESR positions in PriMa. Potential applicants are invited to review these positions. For more information about PriMa in general and the other vacancies, including links, can be found here ([www.prima-itn.eu](http://www.prima-itn.eu)). The position here refers to ESR 12.

### **Prerequisites**

- An excellent or very good (with honours) university Bachelor degree in the area of Psychology, Human-Computer Interaction, or related subject.
- An excellent or very good (with honours) university Master degree in the area of Psychology, Human-Computer Interaction, or related subject.
- Successful candidates must be able to secure a residence and work permit in Germany and are required.
- Successful candidates at the time of recruitment must not have lived or worked in Germany for longer than 12 months in the last three years.

### **Language**

- Fluent in written and spoken English.
- Candidates who have completed their Master degree in an institution where English is not the language of instruction must present one of the following Secure English Language Tests (SELT) results as follows:
  - TOEFL Internet-Based (iBT), minimum 95 with a writing score of at least 24.
  - Academic IELTS, minimum 6.5 with a minimum of 6.0 in each element.
  - Advanced Cambridge Certificate at grade C or better.
  - The test results must not be older than 24 months on the date of the application deadline.

### **Skills**

A high motivation to work in an exciting research field. Prior knowledge or the willingness to acquire appropriate knowledge and skills in one or more of the following areas:

- Experience with user studies, experimental design, and empirical methods (including statistical software tools).
- Experience in experimental psychology with a focus on human behaviour.

- Knowledge in Biopsychology and/or stress research.
- Computer Graphics, i.e., Computer Animation with focus on artificial humans.
- VR-development with Unity, Unreal Engine, or similar.

### **We offer**

This offer is a full funded (100%) position as a researcher of the German civil service for 3 years (details see below) with the option to complete a PhD thesis. Further potential extension of the contract is subject of the progress made. The position reports to the supervisor.

The chair of Biological Psychology, Clinical Psychology and Psychotherapy offers a motivating work environment with various links to ongoing projects in a prospering area and a motivated team. We are among the leading research groups in using Virtual Reality in experimental psychological research. The group runs to various VR labs with HMDs, power wall, and a 5-sided CAVE system.

The University of Würzburg is one of the oldest institutions for higher education. With 28.000 students it is the fourth largest university in Bavaria. Würzburg is a notably vivid and liveable city:

- As a university city, it has the highest ratio of young people between age 18 and 30 of all Germany. As a result, it offers many cultural and recreational activities.
- Short distances and commute times.
- Centrally located in the middle of Germany and Europe with perfect interconnections to the German rail system and only 1h from the largest airport in Frankfurt.
- World-renowned cultural places: Old Main bridge, Marienberg fortress, Würzburg Residence, vineyards, the Main waterfront and more.
- A vivid campus life with several canteens, sports facility, children daycare, and more.

The position includes the possibility to pursue a PhD degree. The topic will be coordinated between the applicant and the advisor (Prof. Pauli).

### **Description**

- Salary: TVL E13 (100%), details see official German public service regulations (<http://oeffentlicher-dienst.info/tv-l/west/>)
- Part-time in parallel with a master program possible.
- Start: July 2020 earliest.

### **Application**

All applications should be send electronically via e-mail as one pdf file to:

- Recipient: Secretary BioKlin (l-psy1@psychologie.uni-wuerzburg.de)
- Position code: BioKlin-PRIMA-ESR12 (please reference this number in your application)
- Deadline: none, open until position filled.

### **Content:**

- CV
- Letter of motivation
- Certificates (high school, university program(s), additional occupations/functions)
- Certificate of the language skills
- If applicable: list of publications
- If applicable: link to selected self-authored writings/publications (e.g., thesis/theses, project reports, papers if applicable)

Female candidates are particularly encouraged to apply. Disabled applicants will be preferentially considered in case of equivalent qualification.

### **Questions and Contact**

Prof. Dr. Paul Pauli (Pauli@psychologie.uni-wuerzburg.de)