

Motor control and performance in competitive and elite sports

Ref. ZAP-2020-113

The Movement Control and Neuroplasticity Research Group, Department of Movement Sciences, Group Biomedical Sciences, KU Leuven, consists of a multidisciplinary team of international scientists adhering to an integrated behavioral and neuroscientific research strategy, focusing on experimental studies in expert perception and performance, motor control and training-induced neuroplasticity. The group has a long-standing tradition and excellent reputation in these areas of research.

We are looking for a dynamic, distinguished, highly motivated (m/f) researcher with special expertise in the study of motor control and performance with a close tie to competitive and elite (team) sports. He/she should demonstrate his track of publication record in the domain of physical, perceptual-cognitive, neural or adaptive processes upon exercise training and its applicability in (team) sports. Going from theory to practice, the candidate should have experience in translating his/her scientific results into coaching practice during the various phases of athlete development.

There are existing opportunities for collaboration in these research areas within the Department, as well as within the University and with a number of international centers of excellence in this field.

Excellent state-of-the art research infrastructure is available to study the physical, perceptual-cognitive, neural and adaptive processes upon exercise training using eye-movement registration technologies, GPS systems, virtual reality as well as non-invasive medical imaging and brain stimulation techniques available in the BrainsHub. Also, our research campus is embedded in state-of-the art elite sports infrastructure. In addition, there is a stable offer of highly talented PhD students and a supportive work environment.

<http://gbiomed.kuleuven.be/english/research/50000737/groups/50487173>

Duties

Research

You develop an excellent research program on expert perception and performance with a close tie to competitive and elite sports organizations in (team) sports.

You support and further expand national and international research collaborations of the research group and the department.

You develop an excellent research program and supervise PhD students at an international level.

You achieve scientific output that adheres to the highest international standards.

You are able to acquire competitive funding from local, national and international funding sources.

Teaching

You take on teaching responsibilities within the Faculty of Movement and Rehabilitation Sciences, and/or in other faculties. You teach and supervise courses both in the bachelor and masters programs; including Training theory (with a specific focus on team sports), Performance optimization in sports, Performance training: load monitoring to enhance performance decisions, Scientific internships in sports.

You meet the KU Leuven standards regarding academic program level and orientation and adhere to the KU Leuven's vision on education. A commitment to quality of education as a whole is implied.

Service

You take charge of domain-specific scientific support services.

You accept responsibilities within the department, contributing to the local and international visibility of the research group and department.

You have and develop an international network and access to national and international competitive and elite sport organizations and institutions.

Profile

You should hold a PhD or doctoral degree that demonstrates your expertise in the aforementioned research domain(s). More specifically, this refers to expertise in the study of motor control and performance with a close tie to competitive and elite (team) sports.

You have an excellent research record as well as teaching and training skills, in order to contribute to the research output of the department and to the quality of its educational program. The quality of your research should be evident from publications in international peer-reviewed journals and high-level technical expertise. International research experience and involvement in international research networks and projects is highly appreciated.

You possess superior teaching and training skills (theoretical and practical courses) in order to contribute to the quality of the educational program of the faculty.

You have organizational skills and a cooperative attitude. You also possess leadership capacities within a university context.

Proficiency in English is required. The official language used at KU Leuven is Dutch. If you do not speak Dutch (or do not speak it well) at the start of employment, KU Leuven will provide language training to enable you to take part in meetings.

Before teaching courses in Dutch or English, you will be given the opportunity to learn Dutch, respectively English, to the required standard.

Offer

We offer a full-time employment in an intellectually challenging environment. KU Leuven is a research-intensive, internationally oriented university that promotes both fundamental and applied scientific research. It is highly focused on inter- and multidisciplinary research and strives for international excellence. It actively works together with research partners in Belgium and abroad and provides its students with an academic education that is based on high-quality scientific research.

You will work in Leuven, a historic, dynamic and lively city located in the heart of Belgium, within 20 minutes from Brussels, the capital of the European Union, and less than two hours from Paris, London and Amsterdam.

Depending on your record and qualifications, you will be appointed to or tenured in one of the grades of the senior academic staff: assistant professor, associate professor, professor or full professor. In principle, junior researchers are appointed as assistant professor on the tenure track for a period of 5 years; after this period and contingent upon a positive evaluation, they are permanently appointed (or tenured) as associate professor. KU Leuven is well set to welcome foreign professors and their family and provides practical support with regard to immigration & administration, housing, childcare, learning Dutch, partner career coaching, ...

Please include with your motivation letter a research statement (no more than three pages), demonstrating your added value for the research program of the Department of Movement Sciences and the Biomedical Sciences Group. It is appropriate to acknowledge the aims of the Department for transparent and reproducible research (including Open Data, Open Materials, Preregistrations and publications of negative or null results). Therefore, you are encouraged to address how you have pursued these goals in the past and/or how you plan to do so in the future in their statement. In addition, please outline your vision of academic education in a teaching statement and how it fits with the KU Leuven vision ('activating the future self') on teaching (no more than 1 page).

Interested?

For more information please contact Prof. dr. Stephan Swinnen, tel.: +32 16 32 90 71, mail: stephan.swinnen@kuleuven.be or Prof. dr. Jan Seghers, tel.: +32 16 32 90 48, mail: jan.seghers@kuleuven.be. For problems with online applying, please contact solliciteren@kuleuven.be.

KU Leuven places great importance on research integrity and ethical conduct and will therefore ask you to sign an integrity statement upon appointment.

You can apply for this job no later than December 21, 2020 via the online application tool :

<http://www.kuleuven.be/eapplyingforjobs/55676338>

KU Leuven seeks to foster an environment where all talents can flourish, regardless of gender, age, cultural background, nationality or impairments. If you have any questions relating to accessibility or support, please contact us at diversiteit.HR@kuleuven.be.