

UC San Diego

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Research Psychologist Opportunity

Who: Seeking a Licensed Clinical Psychologist to support multiple NIH funded studies aimed at discovering early biomarkers of ASD and variables that predict long term outcomes. Our Center is dedicated to fostering the careers of new and established psychologists alike, with considerable emphasis placed on both clinical and scientific growth. Position requires a Ph.D. or Psy.D. in psychology or related field. Bilingual (English/Spanish) not required but a plus.

What: The successful candidate will perform diagnostic and psychometric testing with toddlers and school age children with ASD and non-ASD delays, approximately 6-8 testing sessions per week. The full-time position may additionally involve conducting research experiments, protocol development for various projects, data analysis, manuscript preparation, and assisting with grant applications. Other possible duties involve supervising the activities of Ph.D. students or non-licensed psychologists working towards their clinical licensure. The applicant must have at least 2-years clinical experience with children who present with ASD.

Excellent benefits – UCSD provides 13 paid holidays per year, plus additional weeks of personal vacation time.

Where: Our Center is located just steps from the ocean in La Jolla at the University of California, San Diego

When: Flexible for the right candidate

How to apply: Interested candidates should send their CV to Karen Pierce, Ph.D. at kpierce@health.ucsd.edu Please enter the phrase “Psychologist Position” in the email subject line.

Learn More

Visit the UCSD ACE at: <http://autism-center.ucsd.edu>

Our collaborators: <http://lewislab.ucsd.edu/>

<https://medschool.ucsd.edu/som/pediatrics/research/labs/muotri-lab/Pages/default.aspx>

<https://mvlombardo.github.io/>

Further Reading:

- 1) Xiao Y., Wen T., Kupis L., Eyler L., Goel D., Lombardo M.V., **Pierce, K.** & Courchesne, E. ASD toddlers exhibit impaired development of neural systems that respond to motherese speech. (2022). *Nature Human Behavior*, Mar;6(3):443-454. doi: 10.1038/s41562-021-01237-y. PMID: 34980898
- 2) Pierce, K., Marinero, S., Hazin, R., McKenna, B., Carter Barnes, C., Malije, A. (2016). Eyetracking Reveals Abnormal Visual Attention to Geometric Images as a Biomarker of an ASD Subtype Associated with Increased Symptom Severity. *Biological Psychiatry*, 79(8):657-66. PMID:25981170. PMCID: PMC4600640
- 3) Gazestani, V., Pramparo, T., Nalabolu, S., Murray, S., Lopez, L., Pierce, K., Courchesne, E. & Lewis, N. (2019). A perturbed gene network containing PI3K-AKT, RAS-ERK and WNT-b-catenin pathways in leukocytes is linked to ASD genetics and symptom severity. *Nature Neuroscience*. 22(10):1624-1634. doi: 10.1038/s41593-019-0489-x. Epub 2019 Sep 23. PMID: 31551593

- 4) Pierce, K., Gazestani, V., Bacon, E., Carter Barnes, C., Cha, D. Nalabolu, S., Moore, A. & Courchesne, E. (2019). Evaluation of the diagnostic stability of the ASD phenotype in the general population starting at 12 months. *JAMA Pediatrics*. 173(6):578-587. doi: 10.1001/jamapediatrics.2019.0624. PMID:31034004 PMCID: [PMC6547081](#)
- 5) Lombardo, M., Eyer, L., Moore, A., Datko, M., Carter Barnes, C., Cha, D., Courchesne, E. & Pierce, K. (2019). Default mode-visual network hypoconnectivity in an autism subtype with pronounced social visual engagement difficulties. *Elife*. Dec 17; 8. doi: [10.7554/eLife.47427](#). PMID: 31843053. PMCID: PMC6917498