Who are we?

CLIC is a research collaboration between the University of Cambridge and Nanyang Technological University (NTU) and hosted by the Cambridge Centre for Advanced Research and Education in Singapore (CARES) that aims to develop neuroscience-based interventions for lifelong flexible learning. Launched in October 2020 and funded by the National Research Foundation Singapore, CLIC brings together a multidisciplinary team of psychologists, neuroscientists, linguists and educators who conduct innovative research in the science of learning.

The world of today is constantly evolving to keep pace with advances in technology and globalisation, requiring individuals to adapt and develop new skills to ensure resilience through a culture of lifelong flexible learning. Mental flexibility is required in order to adapt to change, problem-solve creatively in new situations and make the most of opportunities including emerging career opportunities. The capacity for cognitive flexibility is thus central to the modern digital age and our education system needs innovation to ensure citizens are equipped to develop these future skills. For example, major global challenges, including climate change, renewable energy, and food security, will require novel and creative approaches and solutions.

CLIC researchers are developing a neuroscience-based model of flexible learning, including important social contextual factors, in order to inform the design of practical, real-life interventions for use in schools and the workplace. This will ensure that individuals are not only prepared for future career success, but also have a good quality of life and wellbeing, thus supporting a flourishing society.

CLIC has recently successfully completed a three-year pilot phase (2020-23) and has confirmed funding to launch its next three-year phase in October 2023.

Who are we looking for?

The position is based in Singapore and the role is expected to contribute to the scientific leadership of CLIC as it enters this exciting new phase and to develop the local and international collaborations of the programme, with a view to increasing and widening research impact. With the approval of the CLIC funder, it is anticipated that the post holder would be part of the principal investigator team for CLIC.

Appointment will be made on a fixed-term basis until 30th September 2025 in line with the funding grant end date, with the possibility of an extension subject to securing grant funding for the continuation of the project for a further year to 30th September 2026.

Appointments will be subject to satisfactory completion of a probationary period which will be set dependent on the length of tenure.

The successful candidate will be expected:

- To support CLIC Directors Prof Zoe Kourtzi (University of Cambridge) and Prof Annabel Chen (Nanyang Technological University) in providing leadership and day-to-day management of all CLIC research activities.
To supervise and coordinate all CLIC programme staff (senior research fellow, research fellows, research associates, assistants and administrative staff) employed in Singapore.

To facilitate co-ordination and communication between PIs from the University of Cambridge (UK) and Nanyang Technological University (Singapore).

To facilitate efficient work integration across the different individual work packages.

To contribute scientific leadership on the CLIC programme of research, with a particular focus on the neuroscience of learning across the lifespan. Subject to the approval of the funder, it is anticipated that the post holder would be part of the principal investigator team for CLIC.

To provide oversight of required academic inputs to funder reporting and grant terms compliance processes to ensure high-quality, programmatically synergetic communications with funder and funder advisory committees.

To be responsible for ensuring the programme’s ethics and governance responsibilities are properly fulfilled.

To promote CLIC research activities within Singapore and internationally, with a view to widening the international research impact.

Communicate material of a specialist or highly technical nature to a wide range of scientific and non-scientific stakeholders.

Develop links with external contacts such as other educational and research bodies and Singapore government ministries, agencies and other stakeholders.

Preparation of proposals and applications to external bodies, e.g., for funding and contractual purposes to continue, further support and/or progress the research goals of the CLIC programme.

To conduct individual and collaborative research projects within the scope of the CLIC programme and write up for presentation and publication.

Develop links with external contacts such as other educational and research bodies and Singapore government ministries, agencies and other stakeholders.

To originate and develop external networks, for example to identify sources of funding, or build relationships for future activities.

Manage the use of research resources and ensure that effective use if made of them, manage/monitor research budgets.

What skills will you need?

- PhD in the relevant specialist subject area
- Expertise in the science of learning, with a particular focus on cognitive neuroscience methods and mechanisms of learning in young people
- Experience of data management and analysis, with great attention to detail and excellent record keeping.
- Experience of experimental design, data quality control, data processing, statistical analysis, and integration and visualization of data from multiple platforms.
- Strong abilities in strategic thinking and planning; the ability to guide and harmonise several programmes of work and oversee and coordinate multiple teams and management arrangements.
- Ability to work both in a team and pro-actively, using own initiative to prioritise and manage own workload, to work under pressure and meet tight deadlines and maintain confidentiality.
- Role holder must have excellent IT skills and data analysis experience.
- Flexibility, good time management and ability to prioritise a diverse and changing workload.
- Role holder must be experienced in conducting individual and collaborative research projects.
- Enthusiastic to undertake management and administrative duties and have a track record of securing research funding.
- Proven ability to lead and inspire a team and work with vision and foresight.
- The ability to support staff individual and team growth, and in doing so promoting a productive and supportive culture.
• The role holder would possess sufficient administrative skills to manage projects including financial management.
• Ability and willingness to be located in Singapore.
• Extensive prior experience and deep knowledge of the Singapore research environment, in particular, experience with setting up local research infrastructure, conducting human psychological research, and liaising with local research entities (Desirable).

Please note this post is mainly based in the CREATE Tower at NUS University Town, Singapore.

How to apply?

Please apply by uploading your CV and academic transcript to https://talent.sage.hr/jobs/af999648-e4ea-43d2-ae51-456b6c18afce. If you have any questions, please feel free to reach out to the HR team at recruitment@cares.cam.ac.uk.