



SOCIETY FOR THE  
NEUROBIOLOGY OF  
LANGUAGE

# Newsletter

August 2024



## Join us in Brisbane for SNL 2024!

Brisbane (traditional name, Meanjin) is a modern, sub-tropical capital city with the river at its heart. With almost year-round sunshine, the city and surrounds offer a range of appealing visitor experiences including easy access to the nearby Gold and Sunshine Coasts and to the Great Barrier Reef.



*The State Host Destination*

The SNL meeting will convene at the [Brisbane Convention and Exhibition Centre](#), situated across from the 1.5 hectare [South Bank Parklands](#) precinct with its lagoon beach, the [Queensland Cultural Centre](#) and [Gallery of Modern Art \(GOMA\)](#).



Brisbane was named by Frommer's guide as one of the best places to go in 2024:

<https://www.frommers.com/slideshows/848587-frommer-s-best-places-to-go-in-2024>

And by the New York Times as a 'must see' for 2024:

<https://www.nytimes.com/interactive/2024/travel/places-to-travel-destinations-2024.html>

For more information, visit <https://www.queensland.com/au/en/places-to-see/destinations/brisbane> and <https://visit.brisbane.qld.au>



## The most unforgettable dining experiences on the Great Barrier Reef

You may have dined on the water's edge, but how about on the edge - or in the middle - of the [Great Barrier Reef](#)? From the southern tip of the reef to its northernmost resort, you might just find what's on your plate as memorable as what's beneath the



## A world of natural wonders

Venture deep into the tangled, ancient rainforest in [Cairns and Great Barrier Reef](#) to share the floor with Australia's largest flightless bird, the southern cassowary. Or, if you're game, take a guided tour along the [Daintree River](#) to spot the saltwater crocodiles that sun themselves along the bank.

Looking for our furry and friendly

surface.

More than incredible [marine life encounters](#), a trip to the Great Barrier Reef is your invitation to feast on local flavours, picnic on a sand cay, or have your very own daily catch prepared by a hatted restaurant.

Intrigued? Here are the best dining experiences on the Great Barrier Reef. [Learn more](#)

mates? You can spot our largest colony of wild koalas on [Magnetic Island](#). Looking for our furry and friendly mates? You can spot our largest colony of wild koalas on [Magnetic Island](#). Not only will you see these Australian icons in their natural habitat, but you can also take in panoramic views of the [Great Barrier Reef](#). [Learn more](#)



Neurobiology  
of Language

[Neurobiology of Language](#) is the open-access journal sponsored by the Society for the Neurobiology of Language and MIT Press. Launched in March 2019, the journal provides a new venue for articles across a range of disciplines addressing the neurobiological basis of speech and language. To learn more about Neurobiology of Language and how to submit articles, go to <https://www.mitpressjournals.org/nol>.



## Job Postings and Announcements

If you have a job posting, general announcement, or conference that you would like to include in the SNL Newsletter, please send it to [newsletter@neurolang.org](mailto:newsletter@neurolang.org).



## Job Postings



### Postdoctoral Research Fellow Position

We are inviting applications for a 2-year Postdoctoral Research Fellow position (start date January 1st 2025) to work at the University of Birmingham (funded by the Leverhulme Trust), on the benefits of language exposure for language processing in healthy older adults.

Healthy older adults experience decline in several aspects of their language function. The aim of this project is to examine the mechanisms underlying language production decline and to use that knowledge to help ameliorate this decline. Theories of language production currently link mechanisms for sentence production to implicit learning, driving syntactic priming effects. Research demonstrates that key features of these effects are persistence over time and generalizability (for useful theoretical background, see <https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/35389705/>). The postdoctoral student will set up experiments to compare the effects of different language training protocols in healthy older adults, with the aim of increasing the persistence of priming effects, thereby increasing diversity of language use in healthy older adults.

Informal inquiries to Dr. Katrien Segaert: [k.segaert@bham.ac.uk](mailto:k.segaert@bham.ac.uk)

For more information and to apply: <https://www.jobs.ac.uk/job/DIQ395/research-fellow>

Closing date September 15th!



**Job Opening: PhD position @TU Berlin on Computational Cognitive Neuroscience of Language**

We are looking for a highly motivated PhD student to join our group for a project that focuses on the development of computational models to understand how linguistic information is represented in the human brain. Computational encoding models in combination with large language models will be developed, compared, and applied to identify linguistic representations in the brain. We are a small, dynamic international team, driven by motivation and collaboration within a supportive environment.

Please find further details about the positions and how to apply here:

<https://www.jobs.tu-berlin.de/stellenausschreibungen/184845>

Employer: TU Berlin

Salary grade: TV-L 13 Berliner Hochschulen

Starting date: Immediately

**The application deadline is August 16th, 2024.** For informal inquiries please contact me ([deniz@tu-berlin.de](mailto:deniz@tu-berlin.de)) directly.



## Assistant or Associate Professor Position, Computational Psychology or Computational Neuroscience

The Department of Psychology at the University of Maryland invites applications for a tenure-track position at the rank of Assistant or Associate Professor in computational psychology, computational cognitive science, or computational neuroscience. We seek individuals with expertise in mathematical or computational approaches to theory development and/or computational or mathematical approaches to modeling large complex data sets, using techniques such as advanced Bayesian methods, artificial neural networks, deep learning algorithms, predictive classifiers, social network analysis, machine learning, large language models, or other high-dimensional models necessary for addressing fundamental questions related to brain, behavior, social systems, and/or artificial intelligence (AI). Areas of emphasis are open, though we are particularly interested in candidates who can contribute to fundamental research in Neuroscience, Cognitive Science, or AI; teach courses in computational or mathematical modeling of brain and behavior; and collaborate with a campus wide community of scholars in the Department of Psychology, College of Behavioral and Social Sciences, University of Maryland's Institute for Advanced Computer Studies (UMIACS), the Program in Neuroscience and Cognitive Science, Maryland Language Science Center (MLSC), and/or the Brain and Behavior Institute (BBI).

Qualifications: A primary qualification for this position is demonstrated excellence in scholarship and teaching, including a record of publishing in peer-reviewed outlets and the potential to attract extramural grant funding. A Ph.D. in psychology, cognitive science, neuroscience, computer science, or a related discipline is required at the time of appointment.

We strongly encourage applications from members of groups that are underrepresented in scientific research, including, but not limited to, women, and groups based on race, ethnicity, nationality, religion, disability, sexual orientation, socioeconomic background, and gender identity. Diversity and inclusion are core values at the University of Maryland, and a strong candidate will demonstrate the ability to create inclusive classrooms and research mentoring environments in which a diverse array of students can learn and thrive. The Department also embraces the values of open and reproducible science, and candidates should address in their research statement how they have pursued and/or plan to pursue these goals in their work.

Faculty members may have the opportunity to collaborate within Psychology and with scholars in other units and groups at UMD, including the Brain and Behavior Institute, University of Maryland's Institute for Advanced Computer Studies (UMIACS), The Applied Research Laboratory for Intelligence and Security (ARLIS), Maryland Language Science Center (MLSC), Computer Science, the Social Data Science Center, the National Consortium for the Study of Terrorism and Responses to Terrorism, and Geographical Sciences. Located just seven miles from the heart of the nation's capital, the University of Maryland is the flagship campus of the state's higher education system and a top-ranked public research institution. It is located in the Washington DC-Baltimore region, with a wealth of cultural attractions and access to federal funding agencies and professional associations. Salaries are competitive.

Application materials should be submitted by 11:59PM EST Tuesday, October 15, 2024 through <https://ejobs.umd.edu/> (<https://ejobs.umd.edu/postings/120948>) and should include a cover letter, CV, statement of current and future research interests and research philosophy, a statement of teaching philosophy and experience (including evidence of teaching excellence, if available), a diversity statement, and contact information for three references. Reference writers will receive the request to submit a reference letter upon submission of the application. Applicants should provide up to three sample research manuscripts or journal articles in the Supplemental Document 1 field in eJobs.

For inquiries, please contact the search committee chair, Dr. Matt Roesch ([mroesch@umd.edu](mailto:mroesch@umd.edu)).



The University of Maryland, College Park, an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer, complies with all applicable federal and state laws and regulations regarding nondiscrimination and affirmative action; all qualified applicants will receive consideration for employment. The University is committed to a policy of equal opportunity for all persons and does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, physical or mental disability, protected veteran status, age, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, creed, marital status, political affiliation, personal appearance, or on the basis of rights secured by the First Amendment, in all aspects of employment, educational programs and activities, and admissions.



## Clinical Research Project Manager Position focused on Autism Northwestern University

The Neurodevelopmental Disabilities Laboratory at Northwestern University (<http://ndl.northwestern.edu>) is seeking a research project manager to work on several NIH-funded research projects, focused on autism and fragile X syndrome.

This position will involve work on projects investigating the language-related features of autism, and studying how autism-related traits can express in the general population, and across related genetic conditions, to help us to understand gene-brain-behavior connections. Depending on experience, the position involves opportunities for engagement at all levels, from recruitment and testing to participating in manuscripts and presentations. Successful applicants will have the opportunity to serve in a leadership role coordinating research activities and supervising project staff.

Position qualifications include having multiple years of research project management or equivalent experience, or a Master's or PhD in psychology, communication sciences, neuroscience, linguistics, or a related field; experience with autism; proficiency with experimental and statistical skills; ability to work independently and in a collaborative team environment on multiple tasks and projects, and to share one's expertise with and train others; as well as excellent organizational skills. A BA/BS is acceptable with multiple years of project management experience. Opportunities to contribute to grant and manuscript submissions depend on interest and skill level including strong scientific writing skills and experience with project management. Information about the lab and projects can be found at: <http://ndl.northwestern.edu>.

To apply, please include a brief cover letter explaining your relevant background and interest in position, CV, and names and contact information for three references (please do not send letters) to: Anne Taylor, [anne.taylor@northwestern.edu](mailto:anne.taylor@northwestern.edu)



## Other

### 2nd Annual Neuroscience of the Everyday World Conference

We invite you to join us for our upcoming 2nd Neuroscience of the Everyday World Conference, hosted by Boston University and Chen Institute, scheduled for Monday, August 26-Tuesday, August 27, 2024.

This event is an excellent platform for researchers, academics and students in the fields of computer science, biomedical engineering, cognitive science, neurology, and clinical neuroscience to present state-of-the-art research, all focused on the study of human brain function and continuous brain measurement in real-world activities. The presentations will all focus on innovative methodologies, different real-world contexts, and a range of healthy and disease states.

The conference will be 2 days with 2 keynotes, 3 symposia, a neurotechnology discussion panel and poster sessions. The goal is to facilitate extensive discussion and brainstorming to accelerate the impact of these convergent activities.

#### Please note:

- Registration is free and available in-person and online/virtual
- Please register for the conference [here](#). Registration will close on **August 1st, 2024**.

Should you have any questions or require further information, please do not hesitate to contact us [atbrainrec@bu.edu](mailto:atbrainrec@bu.edu)  
We look forward to welcoming you to our conference!



Connect with us to get the latest membership updates and announcements.



Society for the Neurobiology of Language | [www.neurolang.org](http://www.neurolang.org)

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