**Postdoctoral Research Scholar in Determinants of Child Development**

**Owerko Centre, Alberta Children’s Hospital Research Institute and the Department of Psychology, University of Calgary**

The Owerko Centre at the Alberta Children’s Hospital together with the Department of Psychology at the University of Calgary (UofC) is looking for a Postdoctoral Fellow (PDF) to examine early determinants of child development, with a specific focus on early language, cognitive, and behavioral development. Postdoctoral supervision will be provided by: (1) Dr. Susan Graham, Professor in the Department of Psychology and Director of the Owerko Centre for Neurodevelopment; (2) Dr. Sheri Madigan, Assistant Professor in the Department of Psychology and Canada Research Chair in Determinants of Child Development. Additional support will be provided by Dr. Suzanne Tough, Professor in the Departments of Pediatrics and Community Health Sciences, Cummings School of Medicine, University of Calgary.

The PDF will lead a multi-pronged program of research using a variety of methodologies to elucidate early determinants of children’s socio-cognitive development. First, the PDF will lead a series of studies emerging from the All Our Babies (AOB; PI: Suzanne Tough) dataset. AOB is a community-based, longitudinal pregnancy cohort developed to investigate the relationships between the prenatal and early life period and outcomes for infants, children and mothers. The design of AOB follows a life course perspective, whereby the influence of early events on long-term health and development of both mothers and children are investigated through examining factors across life stages. AOB spans pregnancy, birth, early postpartum through childhood, and therefore provides the unique opportunity to describe the relations between prenatal events and early life development and to examine key factors that influence child development, as well as child and maternal wellbeing over time. The overall objective of AOB is to investigate risk and protective factors for optimal child development, and to understand the trajectory and impact of poor maternal mental health over time. Statistical methods to be used on the AOB dataset may include, mediation and moderation, SEM, Latent Class Analysis, etc. Second, the PDF will lead a meta-analysis on a central determinant of child language acquisition.

PDF responsibilities include (but are not limited to) active contribution to the development of peer-reviewed publications related to the studies undertaken as part of the postdoctoral appointment, providing leadership on knowledge translation activities, actively seeking additional funding opportunities, and supervising junior research staff. The PDF will receive applied training related to statistical methods, grant applications, psychology research laboratory management, knowledge translation of clinical research into practice and policy, academic teaching, and multi-stakeholder collaboration with a range of investigators (psychologists, epidemiologists, and statisticians) and health service agencies. Additional training related to the dissemination of evidence-based child development and related family health prevention and promotion programs within the community will be made available in collaboration with Drs. Graham, Madigan and Tough, AOB investigators, and colleagues in the Alberta Children’s Hospital Research Institute. Interested candidates will also have the opportunity to participate in research activities across the range of projects comprising Graham ([http://psychology.ucalgary.ca/profiles/susan-graham)](http://psychology.ucalgary.ca/profiles/susan-graham%29) and Madigan’s (see [www.madiganlab.com](http://www.madiganlab.com) or https://psyc.ucalgary.ca/manageprofile/profiles/sheri-madigan) broader programs of research.

The PDF will be affiliated with the UofC and the **Owerko Centre at the Alberta Children’s Hospital Research Institute (ACHRI)**. The Owerko Centre is a $10M state-of-the-art research space dedicated to promoting collaborative neurodevelopmental and mental health research across UofC and its affiliated hospitals. **ACHRI** brings together over 180 inter-disciplinary scientists to find new ways of understanding and treating child behavioral, emotional, cognitive, and physical health. In the Department of Psychology, The **Department of Psychology** is a dynamic and expanding academic department engaged in a wide range of exciting research, educational, and community activities. In addition to being one of the most active teaching units within the university, the department maintains over 35 research laboratories, reflecting the range of faculty interests with the department. For additional information regarding the department’s activities, programs, and faculty, please see <https://psych.ucalgary.ca/>. The **University of Calgary** is located in Canada’s most enterprising city and is in a period of dynamic growth guided by the university’s clear strategic direction – *Eyes High* – to become one of the country’s top five research universities by 2016, grounded in innovative learning and teaching and fully integrated with the communities and services spanning the city of Calgary. As part of UofC’s strategy to become one of Canada’s top 5 research universities by 2016, UofC has invested $18M to provide enrichment to its PDF program. For more information on the *Eyes High* initiative at the University of Calgary, please see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/eyeshigh/>.

This is a full-time (1.0 FTE), benefits-eligible, one-year appointment, with the potential to extend for a second year. For additional information and policies regarding postdoctoral scholars at the University of Calgary, please see <http://www.ucalgary.ca/research/postdoc>. Salary is commensurate with experience. Successful candidates will also receive an annual stipend of $1,500 to support research-related travel and training activities.

**PDF Qualifications:** Candidates must have a Ph.D. or expect to receive a Ph.D. in a relevant area of study in Psychology by the start of the appointment. Experience with data analysis using cohort studies is required. Applicants must also have experience conducting clinical or developmental psychology research related to child development, demonstrate strong scientific writing skills, possess advanced methodological skills in longitudinal analyses (e.g., mediation, moderator, latent class analysis), and have a track record of scholarly activities including publication of research findings in reputable peer-reviewed journals and conference presentations. Candidates must be available to start the position no later than Sept 1, 2017.

**Application Procedure:** Application materials include:

* **Statement of interest** (limit 1 page) summarizing your relevant experience, career goals, and description of how postdoc training will contribute to these goals
* **Curriculum Vitae**
* **Letters of reference** (2 referees) from individuals who are familiar with your scholarly work
* **Writing samples** (published or unpublished) that best exemplify your scholarly work

Application materials should be sent by email to Dr. Susan Graham: grahams@ucalgary.ca. Initial review of applications will begin immediately, and will continue until April 1st, 2017. Please contact grahams@ucalgary.ca or sheri.madigan@ucalgary.ca if you have any questions.