The Language & Neurocomputation Laboratory in the Department of Psychology at the University of Toronto Scarborough invites applications for a full-time postdoctoral fellow to study the computational mechanisms underlying reading. The position reports to the Director, Professor Blair Armstrong: http://blairarmstrong.net.

The target start date for the position is July 1, 2017, although this is flexible. The initial appointment will be for a term of one year with a possibility of an extension for a second year.

The project focus is on identifying and modeling the mechanisms involved in learning new words and the consequences of this newly acquired knowledge for representation and future learning. Additional computational and empirical studies will explore reading in monolinguals across languages (e.g., English, Spanish), bilinguals and second-language learners, and possibly disordered populations using behavioral and neurophysiological techniques.

The successful candidate must have a PhD in Psychology, Cognitive Science, Computer Science, Linguistics, or a closely related field, by the time of appointment, with a focus on computational methods and theory. Candidates with prior training in computational modeling of language are encouraged to apply; candidates with prior training in neural network (connectionist / parallel distributed processing) models of language are particularly encouraged to apply. Salary will be in the $40,000-$47,000 range, commensurate with qualifications and experience.

The successful candidate will join the vibrant research community at the University of Toronto, one of the world’s highest ranked institutes in psychology, linguistics, and computer science, and with a number of laboratories and research groups standing at the intersection between these disciplines. They will have the opportunity to engage in a number of international collaborations involving computational, behavioural and neural investigations of learning and representation in the US, Spain, and Israel, with possible travel to these labs, and have access to word-class computing facilities, neuroimaging, equipment, behavioural testing suites, and a large multi-lingual participant pool.

Toronto is consistently ranked among the most livable cities in the world. It is a highly multi-cultural environment both inside and outside the University community, and offers opportunities to enjoy the music, food, and arts of the world. The city also boasts an extensive network of public parks and trails, including many along the edge of Lake Ontario, as well as an extensive public transportation network and world class public services.

Beginning Friday, March 17, 2017, all qualified candidates are invited to submit the following application materials to blair.armstrong@utoronto.ca:

1. Curriculum vitae.
2. A one-page research statement related to the proposed project
3. A sample of previously published work
4. Two reference letters (to be emailed directly to blair.armstrong@utoronto.ca by the referees)

An initial review of applications will occur on Friday, April 24, 2017; candidates should submit by this deadline to receive full consideration. The position will remain open until filled.
The University of Toronto is strongly committed to diversity within its community and especially welcomes applications from racialized persons / persons of colour, women, Indigenous / Aboriginal People of North America, persons with disabilities, LGBTQ persons, and others who may contribute to the further diversification of ideas.

All qualified candidates will be considered, although preference will be given to Canadian citizens and permanent residents.

Employment as a Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Toronto is covered by the terms of the CUPE 3902 Unit 5 Collective Agreement. This job is posted in accordance with the CUPE 3902 Unit 5 Collective Agreement.