Call for proposals: McGill-China travel opportunity

Who

McGill University’s Healthy Brains for Healthy Lives (HBHL) Initiative is a bold and ambitious plan that unites McGill’s world-leading strengths in clinical and research neuroscience with pioneering work in neuroinformatics, made possible with an $84 million investment from the Canada First Research Excellence Fund (CFREF) by the Canadian government.

Mitacs is a Canadian national, not-for-profit organization that works with 60 universities, thousands of companies, and both federal and provincial governments in Canada to design and deliver research and training programs in Canada to support education and research, and to foster collaboration and innovation.

What

The Globalink Research Award from Mitacs, valued at $6,000 CAD for travel and accommodation costs, aims to send students from Canada to universities abroad in many partner countries, including China, for collaborative research projects.

As part of the McGill HBHL-Mitacs partnership, we are organizing a special joint initiative to send at least five students from McGill University to four Chinese academic institutions that have collaborative agreements with McGill University (collaborations with institutions outside of these four will also be accepted), and bring in five students specifically from these four institutions to McGill University. The goal is for the Masters or PhD students to perform a collaborative project with the host supervisor for 12-16 weeks.

Those interested in coming to McGill University for these projects will be able to choose their host professors from a list provided. Those interested in going to the four Chinese partner institutions will also have a list of Chinese host labs and PIs to choose from (below). Once the student has chosen his/her exchange lab, both lab professors (sending and receiving) should have a brief agreement about the research project as part of the application. All applications will be reviewed by an HBHL-Mitacs review committee to select the final candidates.

Application deadlines and project start dates

For students wanting to collaborate with China from McGill: June 15th, 2018 at 12PM EDT for travel dates beginning 16 weeks post-submission (~September 2018).

For students wanting to collaborate with McGill from China: Deadline TBA (likely mid-summer 2018).

How to apply and contact information:

If you have any questions about the logistics of this opportunity or would like to apply, please contact Dr. Noha Gerges, Business Development Specialist from Mitacs at ngerges@mitacs.ca or 514-607-8978. For information about the hosts from China or McGill, please contact Dr. Lan Xiong at lan.xiong@mcgill.ca.
Available hosts from the four Chinese institutes

1. University of Electronic Science and Technology, Chengdu, China
   
   (1) Prof. YAO Dezhong: Cognitive Neuroscience, dyao@uestc.edu.cn
   (2) Prof. XU Peng: Brain Machine Interface, xupeng@uestc.edu.cn
   (3) Prof. LUO Cheng, Brain Network, chengluo@uestc.edu.cn
   (4) Prof. GUO Daqing: Computational Neuroscience, dgguo@uestc.edu.cn
   (5) Prof. DONG Li: Big Data on Nerves, youlong1230@126.com

2. West China Hospital/Sichuan University, Chengdu, China
   
   (1) Prof. LI Tao, Psychiatric Genetics, xuntao26@hotmail.com

3. Shenzhen Second People’s Hospital/Shenzhen University, Shenzhen, China
   
   (1) Prof. CAI Xiaodong and Prof. LIU Wenlan: Parkinson’s Disease research, 13632660199@139.com

4. Institute of Brain Cognition and Brain Disease, Shenzhen Institutes of Advanced Technology/Chinese Academy of Science, Shenzhen, China.
   
   (1) Prof. WANG Liping, Optogenetics, lp.wang@siat.ac.cn