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Inserm
La science pour la santé
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HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH

CALL FOR APPLICATION

INSERM CHAIR Recruitment

Exploring Visual Information Processing in the Mouse Visual Cortex

The Inserm chair recruitments opened to Inserm are intended for researchers with strong potential to manage and lead research teams and participate in national, European or international projects.

This recruitment, based on research and teaching projects, is aimed at researchers with a doctorate or equivalent and a first post-doctoral experience. The position is offered on a fixed-term contract (CDD) with a view to tenure in the Inserm Research Directors personnel at the end of the contract.

How apply: https://pro.inserm.fr

Supporting institution:	Inserm : Institut national de la Santé et de la recherche médicale
Name of the head of the institution:	Pr. Didier Samuel
Academic region:	ILE-DE-FRANCE
Location/ Site concerned:	Inserm U968 – Institut de la vision - Paris
Partner institution:	Sorbonne Université
Research contact:	Serge PICAUD: serge.picaud@inserm.fr
Administrative contact:	chaires-professeur-junior@inserm.fr
Research fields EURAXESS:	Neuroscience (Medical sciences)
Keywords:	Neurophysiology; Visual circuits; optogenetics; two-photon microscopy; Calcium imaging; in vivo recordings, learning and behaviour, cortical circuits

Job title to be filled:	Chaire - Exploring Visual Information Processing in the Mouse Visual Cortex
Body after tenure:	Research Director
Anticipated duration of the contract:	3 years
Scientific domains/fields:	Neurosciences
Corresponding specialized scientific commissions (CSS):	CSS4 (Neurosciences) et CSS7 (Health Technology)

Project name:	Exploring Visual Information Processing in the Mouse Visual Cortex

Remuneration package	3 500€ - 5 000€ according to research experience
Quota	Full Time

Strategy of the host institution:

INSERM is the French National Institute of Health and Medical Research. As Vision is providing 80% of our sensory information, ocular pathologies and the related visual impairment are generating major health and societal issues. INSERM has thus contributed to creating the Institut de la vision (host laboratory) on the campus of the Hôpital National de la vision des XV-XX. In this hospital, INSERM has created a clinical center for ophthalmology. To speed up medical innovations in ophthalmology and their transfer to patients, INSERM together with Sorbonne University and the Hôpital national de la vision des 15-20 founded in 2019 the Institut Hospitalo-Universitaire (IHU) FOReSIGHT. This IHU FOReSIGHT gathers the Institut de la Vision, the Hôpital national de la vision des 15-20, AP-HP, the Hôpital Fondation A. de Rothschild and the CEA. It aims at Developing therapeutic and diagnostic innovation, speeding up their transfer to patients, facilitating care pathways and developing new training paradigms for scientific and healthcare teams.

Strategy of the host laboratory:

The Institut de la Vision is a research centre dedicated entirely to vision and ophthalmology. The 2024 international HCERES evaluation committee stated in its report : *"The Institute de Vision is a very impressive research centre that has successfully established itself as one of the leading research centres in the world."*. International in scope, innovative in its design and organisation, it brings together multidisciplinary teams of scientists including Scientists, Clinicians, Patients and Industry stakeholders on the same site to discover innovative treatments for eye diseases and improve the quality of life of visually impaired people. The Institute de la vision is supported by Sorbonne University, INSERM, CNRS and the Fondation Voir & Entendre.
The Institut de la Vision is tackling both the major public health issues in ophthalmology (AMD, glaucoma, diabetic retinopathy,…) and rare diseases (Retinitis Pigmentosa, Useher syndrome, Stargardt disease, optic neuropathies, …) in order to bring hope to all those affected by visual impairment. The main objectives are: 1) **Understanding vision, 2) Developing therapies for ocular diseases and vision pathologies, 3) Restoring vision in blind patients, 4) Developing diagnostic tools.**

Summary of the scientific project:

As part of its research strategy, the Vision Institute is recruiting a Group Leader to focus on topics related to visual cortex function and visual information processing. Areas of interest include, but are not limited to, neural coding in the visual cortex, multimodal information processing, state-

dependent processing, visual perception, development of imaging tools for in vivo neuronal recordings and image analysis, visual behaviour, and modelling.

Located in central Paris within an exceptional scientific environment, the Group Leader will have the opportunity to collaborate with other teams at the Vision Institute with complementary expertise. These include V. Emiliani (optical tools for studying cortical circuits), S. Charpak (neurovascular coupling), S. Picaud (vision restoration through cortical stimulation), and O. Marre (neural coding and computational modelling in the retina).

Summary of the teaching project:

The teaching project will be integrated into the neuroscience teaching offered at master's and PhD's level. She/he will take part in the international master on Sensory Neurosciences - iSENS) organized at the vision Institute and into the annual specialized training school on advanced optical methods for neuronal circuits investigation organized by the Emiliani's team members.

National Research Agency package:

200k€

Other package:

The i3 lab offers a well-established environment enabling the processing and analysis of the data belonging to the project. For the first period of 3 years, a post-doctoral fellow with computational background will be recruited to support the recruited researcher's in the project. Master 2 students (1 per year) will also be recruited.

Co-funding: Newly obtained grants (> 1.5M€) will provide additional funding €

Scientific dissemination/ Open Science:

Scientific communication and dissemination :
We expect that project will generate innovative results, concepts and hypotheses, which will be the subject of several publications (originals and reviews) in leading specialty and general journals The results will be presented in the form of oral communications at international congresses/conferences/workshops.

Open Science:
All publications and communications resulting from the project will be posted on the HAL-Inserm platform. The recruited candidate will be supported in the implementation of the principles aimed at making data "FAIR" ("Findable, Accessible, Interoperable, Reusable".

Science and society:
The science-society relationship is now recognized as an integral dimension of scientific activity. The project will further develop this dimension in synergy with Inserm, Université Sorbonne and clinical partners. The research work that will result from it will contribute to informing public decision-making. Participatory science initiatives may be initiated with actors from the socio-economic and cultural ecosystem of the project. These links can be established through actions organized within the IHU FOReSIGHT and through the Foundation Voir & Entendre

Indicators:

The activity will be evaluated, notably based on scientific outcomes; number of supervised masters, theses and post-doc trainees; local organization of high-level international conferences/workshops; establishment of new collaborations (national/international) or integration into networks; international visibility; funding obtained (national and European)
dissemination of work to multidisciplinary scientific communities, innovation and its transfer to society, and the dissemination of scientific knowledge to non-specialist audiences.

Selection of candidates:

It is expected the recruited researcher to become rapidly a group leader in the GAD team. So the candidate should demonstrate ability to supervise Ph.D students, post-doctoral fellow and technical support staff. She/he should have the capacity to obtain competitive funding to manage her/his group.

Successful candidates are chosen by a selection commission composed of six to ten members, the majority of whom are specialists in the fields of research concerned.

The commission carries out an initial examination of the applications, focused in particular on candidate experience and skills relative to the research and teaching project presented above. A shortlist of candidates is then selected for interview.
Only candidates selected by the selection committee on the basis of their applications will be invited to interview.

The interviews are followed by a deliberation during which selection commission will discuss the quality, originality and, where appropriate, the interdisciplinarity of the research and teaching projects presented by the candidates, their motivation and their scientific and teaching supervision capacity.

The candidates selected at the end of the selection process will be offered a researcher contract, following approval from the President and CEO of Inserm.

Required profile:

Education Level: **Phd**

Researcher Profile: R3/R4

R3 Established researcher A stage in a researcher's career describing those who have developed a level of independence and can described as an established researcher
R4 Leading Research A stage in a researcher's career where they can be termed a 'leading researcher'. This would include the team leader of a research group or head of an industry R&D laboratory.

Your application will be evaluated according to the following criteria:

- Relevance and originality of the project related to the research field
- International exposure in research projects
- Your ability to raise funds
- Participation in editorial and reviewing activities
- Your teaching experience
- Your ability to lead a team…

Application instruction:

Applications can be submitted online at EVA.
Deadline application: **September 2, 2025**

Please complete the scientific file in English.

It is imperative to contact the laboratory corresponding to the Chair you have applied for in order to build the project with them.

Position also open to 'Bénéficiaires de l'Obligation d'Emploi' (disabled persons), as defined in article 27 of law no. 84-16 of January 11, 1984 on statutory provisions for the civil service.