

The ECCS unit and the COSA institute at University of Luxembourg are seeking to appoint

## **1 position as Research Associate (MSc.) in project on academic self-concept**

(Fields: Educational Psychology, Differential Psychology, Quantitative Methods)

with the **possibility to obtain a PhD** within the *DynASCEL* project (Head: Dr. Christoph Niepel) hosted at the research group *Computer-Based Assessment* (Head: Prof. Dr. Samuel Greiff). The post will be offered on a 30-month fixed-term contract (aimed to be extended after the initial period), available to start at **1<sup>st</sup> of July 2017** or later. Salary offered is in accordance with Luxembourgish labor agreements (approx. 2400-2600€ monthly after taxes).

The central focus of *DynASCEL* (“Dynamics of Academic Self-Concept in Everyday Life”) is the investigation of everyday dynamics (pattern of growth, change, and development) of students’ competence beliefs (academic self-concept) during their daily school activities. Specifically, the open positions will focus on the use of ambulatory assessment (e-diary approach) and on the exploitation of the collected micro-longitudinal data from a content-related and a methodological perspective. *DynASCEL* is embedded in the research group *Computer-Based Assessment*, which aims to develop and validate innovative, computer-based assessment instruments for cross-curricular skills ([uni.lu/eccs/cba](http://uni.lu/eccs/cba); [facebook.com/21cba](https://facebook.com/21cba)). The research environment of the *DynASCEL* project is thus interdisciplinary located mainly within the fields of Educational Psychology, Differential Psychology, and Quantitative Methods, with strong ties to applied Psychometrics, Cognitive Science, and Education.

### **Responsibilities:**

- Data collection and management at participating schools in Germany
- Data analysis and psychometric scaling with structural equation models (SEM)
- Self-contained research targeted at receiving a PhD in Psychology (cumulative; i.e., based on peer-reviewed publications)
- Communication with partners and independent instruction of student assistants
- Administrative responsibilities within the project and the research group
- Publications (in English-speaking peer-reviewed journals and at scientific conferences)
- Engagement in grant writing

### **Profile:**

- Excellent Masters degree (or equivalent) in Psychology or a related field
- Good knowledge of and interest in quantitative methods; experience with structural equation modeling (SEM); willingness to learn advanced quantitative methods
- Willingness to travel internationally and excellent English skills in speech and writing. German language skills will be considered an advantage (but is not mandatory)
- Ability to work independently and under strict time lines, communication and cooperation skills, administrative skills, good knowledge of data analysis
- Enthusiasm and enjoyment for research and science, strong personal commitment
- Willingness to teach (in a very limited extent)
- Experience with *Mplus* (or *R*), conducting ambulatory assessments, and/or analyzing large-scale data will be considered an advantage

### **We offer:**

- Participation in a young, committed, and dynamically developing team
- Affiliation to a very active research group with a profile of diverse activities
- Excellent research and funding conditions on a personal and a research level at an international and multilingual university
- Connections to internationally renowned experts in educational psychology, educational assessment, and psychometrics
- National and international conference and workshop attendances within the field
- Possibility to receive a PhD based on publications within a very reasonable amount of time
- Close collaboration with the head of the *DynASCEL* project
- Excellent and intensive supervision on a personal level

The University of Luxembourg is an equal opportunity employer. Applications from female candidates are explicitly welcome. Further, we encourage applications from disabled candidates. Place of employment is the University of Luxembourg. Please send your application (letter of motivation, curriculum vitae, copies of diplomas) as one single pdf file by

**20<sup>th</sup> of May 2017** to Dr. Christoph Niepel ([christoph.niepel@uni.lu](mailto:christoph.niepel@uni.lu)).

Please direct further questions to the same Email address.