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**SELECTION ANNOUNCEMENT
FOR THE AWARDING OF RESEARCH GRANTS (TYPE A)**

THE HEAD OF UNIVERSITY CENTER "PADOVA NEUROSCIENCE CENTER-PNC"

HAVING REGARD TO Law no. 168 dated 9 May 1989;

HAVING REGARD TO the Statute of the University of Padua, published in the Official Gazette no. 300 dated 27 December 2011, plus subsequent amendments and integrations;

HAVING REGARD TO Art. 22 of Law no. 240 dated 30 December 2010, which envisages the awarding of research grants in accordance with budget availability;

HAVING REGARD TO Ministerial Decree DM no. 102 dated 9 March 2011, which establishes the minimum annual gross amount of research grants, published in accordance with Art. 22 of Law no. 240 dated 30 December 2010;

HAVING REGARD TO the current "Regulations Governing Research Grant Awards" pursuant to Art. 22 of Law no. 240 dated 30 December 2010;

HAVING REGARD TO Legislative Decree DL no. 17 dated 9 January 2008, pertaining to the admission of third-country nationals for the purposes of scientific research;

HAVING REGARD TO Italian Presidential Decree D.P.R no. 62 dated 16 April 2013, "Regulations governing code of conduct for civil servants" in accordance with Art. 54 of Law no. 165 dated 30 March 2001, which has extended, where relevant, the obligations under the code of conduct for collaborators and consultants with any type of contract or role;

HAVING REGARD TO Law no. 11 dated 27 February 2015, converted into law with amendments of Decree-Law No. 192 dated 31 December 2014, containing provisions on the extensions of deadlines provided for by law, extending the duration of the working relations established in accordance with Art. 22, Paragraph 3 of Law No. 240 dated 30 December 2010 by two years.

HAVING REGARD TO the deliberation of the Executive Board of the Center made on June 9th, 2020, which approved the establishing of n.1 grant to carry out the research activity related to the project titled "Eye movements and brain dynamics in Alzheimer's disease: the impact of smart natural environments" at the University Center "Padova Neuroscience Center-PNC" acting as the Research Base under the supervision of Professor Maurizio Corbetta, who is the Research Project Supervisor.

IT BEING DEEMED EXPEDIENT to issue a selection announcement for the awarding of no. 1 research grant.

HEREBY DECREES



Art. 1 - Purpose

A selection announcement has been published for the awarding of n.1 research grant for the research project entitled “Eye movements and brain dynamics in Alzheimer’s disease: the impact of smart natural environments” to be conducted at the University Center “Padova Neuroscience Center-PNC” under the supervision of Professor Maurizio Corbetta, who is the Research Project Supervisor.

The research grant, which shall last for 24 months and be for a gross perceived amount of 32.000,00 € and an estimated gross amount institution of 39.300 € per annum, is issued in accordance with the current Regulations Governing Research Grant Awards and Art. 22 of Law no. 240/2010 for the aforementioned research project, in Scientific Area no. 11 and Scientific Sector and Discipline PSIO1/02.

The purpose of this research grant, which is funded by the European Community (Project’s title: “Visionary Nature Based Actions For Health, Wellbeing & Resilience In Cities – VARCITIES”) is to fund research into:

“The grant holder will have to study the eye movements, the physiological signals (EEG, pupillometry, etc.) and the cognitive correlates in patients with neurodegenerative diseases. He must therefore have documented skills in the analysis of these signals and mastery of statistical methods such as univariate and multivariate models, dimensional reduction techniques, and a knowledge of machine learning algorithms (i.e., machine learning). The grant holder will also be involved in the selection of participants, therefore experience in clinical neuropsychology and neuropsychological assessment techniques are required. As part of the project, these skills will be used to study the interaction between brain dynamics, eye movements and cognition, using wearable devices for a more ecological detection of anomalies in patients. The grant holder will also have to evaluate the impact of a smart environment (a smart garden) on the physiological and behavioral measures detected”.

Art. 2 - Admissions requirements

The following are entitled to take part in this selection announcement:

- PhD graduates, or graduates with an Italian specialisation degree (specialistica/magistrale) or pre Italian-university-reform graduates (vecchio ordinamento);
- PhD graduates, or graduates with an Italian specialisation degree (specialistica/magistrale) or pre Italian-university-reform graduates (vecchio ordinamento) who have completed suitable and documented academic and professional experience after their graduation.

Candidates must have their degree by the selection announcement deadline.

Should the candidate’s degree or PhD have been awarded abroad, then, for the sole purposes of this selection procedure, it must be declared to be the equivalent of an Italian specialisation



degree (*specialistica/magistrale*) by a Selection Committee. Similarly, if the PhD has been awarded abroad, then it must have been conducted over a minimum of three years and, for the sole purposes of this selection procedure, must be declared to be the equivalent of an Italian PhD by a Selection Committee.

In accordance with Art. 22 of Law no. 240 dated 30 December 2010, the Grant Holder may not be a permanent employee at the following universities, institutes and public research and experiment organisations: the Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development (ENEA), the Italian Space Agency (ASI), the European University Institute, the *Scuola Normale Superiore di Pisa*, the *Scuola Superiore di studi universitari e di perfezionamento di Pisa*, the *Scuola internazionale superiore di studi avanzati di Trieste*, and the other Italian post-graduate schools that provide the equivalent of doctoral researcher courses.

The maximum period of time of research grant contracts awarded in accordance with Art. 22 of Law no. 240 dated 30 December 2010, including extensions, shall not exceed 6 years, excluding the time that coincides with the completion of a PhD and that is within the maximum legal time limit of the related course.

In accordance with Art. 18 of Law no. 240/2010, Research Grants may not be awarded to anyone who is related to or has an affinity with, up to and including the fourth degree of kinship, a professor or researcher working at the Department elected as "Research Base", or the Rector, Director General, or a member of the University Board of Governors.

Candidates shall be admitted to the selection procedure with reserve. The Center that published the selection announcement may at any moment, even after the examinations have been held, exclude candidates for not having the aforementioned requisites by reasoned order from the Head of the Center.

Art. 3 – Application

The application to take part in this selection procedure must be written on unstamped paper and addressed to the Head of the University Center "Padova Neuroscience Center-PNC"; it must, under penalty of exclusion, be submitted in one of the following methods within 15 days of this selection announcement being published in the Official University Register:

- 1) posted by registered mail with advice of receipt to the following address:

Head of the University Center "Padova Neuroscience Center-PNC", via G. Orus, 2b – 35129 Padova (Italia).

Should the application be sent by registered letter, the postmark will not be accepted as evidence of meeting the application deadline.

Alternatively, the application can be sent to the Center's certified e-mail (PEC) address centro.neuroscience@pec.unipd.it by the deadline. If using this method, the application must be sent:

- through certified e-mail (PEC). The application must be signed and any documents for which a traditional signature is required must carry the applicant's digital signature.



· through certified e-mail (PEC). The copy of the application must have an original signature, together with a copy of the applicant's identity document. Any electronic documents that are required to have a traditional signature must be sent in simultaneously with the application. Only scanned copies shall be accepted. through his/her personal certified e-mail (c.d. CEC PAC) (in accordance with the Decree of the President of the Council of Ministers (DPCM) dated 27/9/2012 together with all the relevant documentation.

If using electronic mail, documents must be sent in a fixed and not directly editable format without macros or executable codes, preferably in PDF. Documents must not exceed 1 MB. Any additional documents must be included with the application and submitted by the Selection Announcement deadline.

Documents submitted at a later date will not be accepted.

The University shall accept no liability should it not be able to locate candidates or should any correspondence be lost due to candidates providing imprecise addresses, or no or late notice of any change to the address stated in the application. Neither shall the University accept any liability for postal, IT or third-party errors, nor for errors due to chance or force majeure.

The postal envelope or email subject must include the title of the selection announcement the candidate is applying for.

The application form, a copy of which can be downloaded from <https://pnc.unipd.it/category/working-at-pnc/available-positions/> must include the candidate's:

- 1) surname and name;
- 2) Italian tax payer's code (*codice fiscale*)
- 3) date and place of birth;
- 4) nationality
- 5) fixed address and domicile address for the purposes of this selection announcement;
- 6) telephone number and email;
- 7) platform used for the online interview (i.e. Zoom, Skype, Adobe Connect, etc.);
- 8) address to be connected for the online interview;
- 9) a statement saying that he/she has the qualifications required by this selection announcement;
- 10) a statement saying that he/she is not a permanent employee at a university or the other organisations listed in Art. 22 of Law 240/2010;
- 11) a statement saying that he/she is not related, or does have not an affinity, up to and including the fourth degree of kinship, to a professor working in the Department or Centre where the



research is based, or to the Rector, Director General, or a member of the University's Administrative Board;

12) a list of the qualifications and publications the candidate is presenting;

13) a statement declaring that the information included in the CV is true and that the qualifications and publications enclosed with the application are true copies of the originals (required in accordance with Art. 46 and 47 of Italian Presidential Decree DPR 445/2000.)

The following must be enclosed with the application:

1. a photocopy of a valid form of identification;
2. an academic and professional curriculum vitae, duly signed and dated on each page;
3. a list of the qualifications and publications the candidate is presenting with his application;

European citizens may self-certify their academic and professional qualifications. Publications may be presented as originals or as copies with a statutory declaration in accordance with DPR 445/2000.

Non-European citizens may present their original qualifications, authenticated copies thereof, or copies that have been declared to comply with the original. Non-European citizens may submit statutory declarations, as if they were European citizens, should they have to provide evidence of statuses, information and personal qualities that can be certified or attested to by Italy's Public Administration, or should a self-certification be envisaged by international conventions between Italy and the candidate's country of origin.

In circumstances other than the aforementioned, at the time of the award, the status, personal qualities and facts declared in the application must be certified true by the foreign state's competent authorities, accompanied by an Italian translation that is certified it conforms to the original by the Italian Consulate, as specified in Art. 3 of Presidential Decree no. 445/2000.

According to Law no. 104 dated 5 February 1992, candidates with a recognized disability must specify in their application any special aids or additional time they may need during the interview and which is relevant to their status.

The candidate undertakes to notify the Administration of any changes to the contact details listed in the application form.

Art. 4 – Selection Procedure

Candidates are selected by a comparative evaluation of their qualifications, academic and professional curriculum vitae, publications, an online interview and 3 reference's letters. Candidate applications shall be evaluated by a Selection Committee appointed by the Head of the



Center; the Selection Committee shall comprise three members who are experts in the field of research, one of which, normally, shall be the Research Project Supervisor.

The Selection Committee has 100 points to evaluate the candidates and they shall be awarded for:

- **qualifications: 15 points:** degree, PhD, specialisation degree, postgraduate certificates (awarded in Italy and abroad). If a PhD or an equivalent qualification obtained abroad or, for relevant research areas, specialisation degrees in medicine together with adequate scientific production output, is not deemed compulsory, for ranking purposes these qualifications will be considered desirable.
- **the curriculum vitae: 15 points:** performance of documented research activity at public and private organisations with contracts, grants or appointments (both in Italy and abroad) relevant to research stated in this selection announcement.
- **publications: 20 points:** including postgraduate dissertations (*Laurea Specialistica/Magistrale*) or PhD theses.
- **the online interview and the 3 reference letters: 50 points.**

The date of the interview, which will be held electronically using the Zoom platform, will be published at the link <https://pnc.unipd.it/category/working-at-pnc/available-positions/> after the expiry date of this announcement and will be available starting from 20/7/2020 at 2:00 p.m.

Candidates who have not been notified of their exclusion from the selection are required to attend the online interview, without prior notice, on the days and at the times aforementioned. Absence from the online interview, whatever the cause, will be considered as the candidate's withdrawal from the selection.

In order to be admitted to the online interview, candidates must provide a valid identity document.

At the end of the evaluation, the Selection Committee shall draw up a provisional ranking based on the total of the scores the candidates were awarded for each category.

To be included in the ranking, candidates must be awarded a minimum overall score of 50 points. In the event of a tie, preference will be given to the younger candidate.

The selection report and the provisional ranking shall be officially approved by a Rector's Decree and then published in the Official University Register.

Art. 5 - Entering into the agreement



An individual agreement will establish the successful candidate's specific tasks, rights and duties, assigned tasks and research activities, payable salary and social security.

The Center shall notify the winner of the date by which he or she must enter into the agreement, under penalty of cancellation.

Should the agreement not be entered into by this date, the winner shall forfeit the right to the research grant. In the event of this, the second-placed candidate in the ranking shall be declared the winner.

Padova, JULY 1ST, 2020

The Director of the Center

Prof. Maurizio Corbetta