

Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence

POSTGRADUATE ASSOCIATE – Emotion Understanding and Psychological Well-Being Project Team

Do you believe that an emotionally intelligent, empathic, and socially skilled society is a better educated, more peaceful, healthy and successful society?

The Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence, part of the Child Study Center at the Yale University School of Medicine, conducts research and teaches people of all ages how to develop their emotional intelligence. Our work focuses on: (1) the development and impact of social and emotional skills among diverse populations, including education settings and organizations, and (2) the mechanisms by which social and emotional skills and training impact significant life outcomes.

We are looking for a **Postgraduate Associate (PGA)** to join our Emotion Understanding and Psychological Well-Being research team. This team is working on an innovative, multi-year initiative funded by the Chan Zuckerberg Initiative and Wend Ventures. The goal of the Emotion Understanding project is to create a performance-based measure of adults' ability to discern the causes and consequences of 25 emotions, and their ability to dynamically process emotional experience in a granular way via language. The purpose of the Psychological Well-Being project is threefold: 1) to develop a suite of psychological measures that tap the causes of educators', professionals', and college students' well-being and that index the multi-dimensional nature of well-being (i.e., social, emotional, occupational, eudaimonic, and physical); 2) to validate our battery of well-being measures in a diverse body of US educators, professionals, and college students at multiple time points to confirm assessment psychometrics; and 3) to examine the predictive validity of our well-being measures, and their effectiveness in supporting initiatives and interventions to improve educators', professionals', and college students' well-being.

The PGA will be responsible for contributing to: study design, planning, and implementation; academic conference proposals; data collection, cleaning, quantitative statistical analyses in SPSS; experience with qualitative coding and mixed methods analysis; as well as text-based analysis and data reporting, including using machine learning and AI techniques; programming and troubleshooting online study projects on Qualtrics; liaising with participants, schools, and organizations within and outside of Yale University via telephone, web-based, and in person communications; and attending routine meetings at the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence with Yale staff and our collaborators, keeping meeting minutes, and overseeing related tasks as needed.

Mentorship

Under Dr. James Floman's mentorship, the PGA will be guided through project tasks which include: (1) research-related tasks such as study design, data collection, data analysis, and data reporting, and preparing original research for national and international academic conferences, as well as potentially for scientific publication; (2) conducting comprehensive reviews of relevant literature; (3) programming online study projects on Qualtrics; (4) liaising with participants, schools, and organizations within and outside of Yale via telephone, email, and in-person communications; and (5) attending meetings at the Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence with Yale staff and our collaborators, keeping meeting minutes, and related tasks as needed.

Training

The Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence offers a weekly PGA seminar series, led by the Director of Research with guest lecturers ranging from Postdoctoral Associates to Research Scientists. This seminar series covers professional development topics, including graduate school preparation and networking/professional image; methods meetings, including study design, methods, and statistical analysis training; and facilitated academic reading discussions.

Education and Experience

The ideal candidate will have at least a bachelor's degree, preferably in psychology or education, and proficiency with Microsoft Office Suite (including Word, Excel, and PowerPoint). They will be strongly professionally driven and focused, and have: excellent time management skills, along with comfort working under deadlines; high attention to detail; superior written and oral communication skills; the ability to give and receive feedback; and the ability to work independently as well as in teams. Preferred qualifications include research experience in social, psychological, and/or cognitive science; experience with data analysis software (e.g. SPSS, R, Mplus); content knowledge in affective science, happiness and well-being, mindfulness, and/or motivation research; experience with qualitative and/or mixed methods study design and analysis; machine learning and AI approaches to analyzing open-ended text data; and an interest in applying for an advanced degree in the future.

Application Process

Please send a cover letter and resume or CV to Dr. Annette Ponnock at annette.ponnock@yale.edu. Please submit your application by no later than May 14th. **Review of applications will begin immediately and continue until position is filled.** Please have three letters of reference and a writing sample available upon request.

Posted: 4/25/2021

The Postgraduate Associate position is one year in duration with a salary of \$36,960. Postgraduate positions are open to those who have recently received a bachelor and/or master's degree, but not doctoral degrees. ***The anticipated start date is July 2021 and the position may start remotely in accordance with Yale University guidance around COVID-19.***

Yale University is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity employer. Yale values diversity among its students, staff, and faculty and strongly welcomes applications from women, persons with disabilities, protected veterans, and underrepresented minorities.

ABOUT THE YALE CENTER FOR EMOTIONAL INTELLIGENCE

Emotions drive learning, decision-making, creativity, relationships, and health. The Yale Center for Emotional Intelligence uses the power of emotions to create a more effective and compassionate society. Helping children and adults develop emotional intelligence is central to the mission of the Center. To date, schools have been at the center of these efforts. RULER, the Center's signature program, draws on leading pedagogical practices as well as advances in psychology and neuroscience, and it has been honed through years of classroom observation, interviews, and the most demanding evaluations. Creating awareness—both of self and others—about emotions and developing the skills of emotional intelligence can improve children's prospects in life and contribute, in turn, to healthier, more compassionate families, workplaces, and communities. RULER does this by teaching adults and children the skills of emotional intelligence.