Job advertisement: 8 positions for the Ph.D. program “Statistical Modeling in Psychology” (65% TV-L E13)

The DFG Research Training Group “Statistical Modeling in Psychology” (SMiP) offers

8 positions for its Ph.D. program
(65% TV-L E13, temporary employment according to WissZeitVG).

The SMiP group is a transregional collaboration of thirteen renowned behavioral researchers from five German universities: University of Mannheim, Albert-Ludwigs-University Freiburg, Ruprecht-Karls-University Heidelberg, University of Koblenz-Landau at Landau, and Eberhard Karls University Tübingen. The SMiP group aims to overcome the gap between substantive research in Psychology and recent developments in statistical modeling and psychometrics. Projects in the SMiP group therefore combine research topics from different areas of psychology with current advances in statistical modeling.

Applicants must hold a very good research-oriented Master’s degree in Psychology and should have great interest in approaching substantive research questions by means of statistical modeling. This can entail applying existing models or developing new models. As the official language of the SMiP group is English, language proficiency in oral and written English is essential.

Ph.D. projects can be assigned to three thematic areas: (1) cognition and social cognition, (2) motivation and affect, and (3) individual differences.

(1) Examples for statistical modeling in “cognition and social cognition” are models for disentangling memory retrieval processes or evidence accumulation models of decision making. Models are developed to test and revise substantive cognitive and social-cognitive theories (e.g., processing accounts of priming, dual-process theories of attitudes, theories of social memory).

(2) Research questions in the area “motivation and affect” refer to affective experiences and affect regulation, work-related processes (e.g., job stressor perceptions, recovery from work), as well as properties of assessment methods (e.g., compliance in ambulatory assessment, assessment of sensitive attributes).

(3) Ph.D. projects on “individual differences” can focus on interindividual differences in personality or cognition, or on the interplay between individual differences in one domain (e.g., personality) and other fields of psychological research (e.g., processing strategy in judgment situations or memory tasks).
The Ph.D. program starting in October 2018 supports and accelerates work on the Ph.D. projects: It entails 6 semesters of courses, skill trainings, and workshops instructed by renowned experts in the respective fields. The SMiP group provides scientific contact and exchange with successful researchers worldwide and supports visits to external labs in research groups abroad. Travel support, your own office space, IT equipment, and access to laboratory facilities are included.

Interested candidates should send the completed SMiP Application Form plus the necessary certificates and documents (see http://smip.uni-mannheim.de/Application/) preferably via email to

University of Mannheim  
Research Training Group SMiP  
Dr. Anke Söllner  
B6, 30-32  
D-68159 Mannheim  
anke.soellner@uni-mannheim.de

The closing date for applications is midnight April 30th 2018.

The Universities of Freiburg, Heidelberg, Koblenz-Landau, Mannheim, and Tübingen seek to increase the percentage of its female faculty members in research and teaching. Thus, qualified women are especially encouraged to apply.

Severely handicapped persons will be favored if equally eligible.

Please note that confidentiality violations and unauthorized third party access cannot be ruled out when using email communications that are not encrypted.

After the application procedure, applications sent via standard mail will only be sent back if a postpaid envelope is included; otherwise they will be destroyed according to statutory provisions of data privacy law; electronic applications will be deleted.