Postdoctoral Position to Study Neurohumoral Control of Cardiorespiratory Function in Sleep

An NIH-funded postdoctoral fellow position is available in the laboratory of Dr. Kevin Cummings, Associate Professor in the Dept. of Biomedical Sciences at the University of Missouri-Columbia. Using a multidisciplinary approach, our research program focuses on the neurohumoral control of breathing and cardiovascular function in neonatal and adult animals during sleep and wakefulness. We are particularly interested in the parallel functions of serotonin and orexin in cardiorespiratory function, sleep and thermoregulation across vigilance states. This work is relevant to the Sudden Infant Death Syndrome which occurs during periods of sleep and is associated with defects in brainstem serotonin and orexin systems.

Studies will involve the recording of breathing and cardiovascular variables during wakefulness and sleep, the microinjection of drugs into the CNS, and the utilization of DREADD technologies to silence or activate specific groups of neurons in the CNS.

We are looking for highly-motivated people who can work independently and who also thrive in a group setting. Candidates should hold a PhD degree in an area of cardiorespiratory physiology or neuroscience, and have excellent oral and written communication skills.

Our laboratory is located in Columbia, Missouri, a small city with a low cost of living that is only a 2 hr drive from both St. Louis and Kansas City. Columbia has vibrant art and music scenes, each year hosting the world-renowned True/False Film Festival and the Roots and Blues BBW Music Festival. There are many excellent restaurants and bars in the downtown “District” that will satisfy your food, drink and coffee cravings. We are only a couple of hours drive from the beautiful Ozark mountains and spring-fed lakes and rivers.

Interested candidates are encouraged to send a cover letter, CV with publications and names and email addresses of three referees to Dr. Kevin Cummings by email at cummingske@missouri.edu.