We are delighted to announce the availability of one to two positions we seek to fill within our 2-year postdoctoral residency program in neuropsychology at the VA San Diego Healthcare System (VASDHS). We have funding to recruit two residents for the 2019-21 training period in this new postdoctoral residency under the direction of Mark W. Bondi, PhD, ABPP/CN, and have developed this training program to constitute roughly a 50/50 balance of clinical and research/didactic activity and seek applicants with outstanding preparation in both.

The research focus for the first position will be on the study of aging and Alzheimer’s disease (AD) utilizing multiple study cohorts—including the UC San Diego Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center (ADRC) and multiple NIA-, VA- and private foundation-funded longitudinal studies of aging, Mild Cognitive Impairment, and AD. Neuropsychological, biomarker, genetic and neuroimaging data pervade these studies and centers, in addition to detailed lifestyle, psychosocial and medical histories. Our neuropsychology residents will have opportunities to interact with our existing VASDHS and UC San Diego research centers (e.g., UCSD Alzheimer’s Disease Research Center; VA Center of Excellence for Stress and Mental Health; VA Mental Illness Research, Education, and Clinical Center; Vietnam Era Twin Study of Aging) and didactic resources (e.g., postdoctoral residency-wide seminar; postdoctoral clinical neuropsychology seminar; ADRC neurodegeneration seminar; Departments of Psychiatry and Neurology grand rounds and colloquia, Department of Pathology brain cuttings).

The research focus for the second position will be on the study of traumatic brain injury and related disorders utilizing numerous existing data sources and ongoing research studies including multiple DoD and VA funded studies examining neuroimaging and neuropsychology following TBI as well as investigations of interventions (including cognitive rehabilitation and mental health treatments) for cognitive and other TBI sequelae. There is also an established archival database of TBI clinical neuropsychological assessments over the last nine years that can be accessed to answer clinically relevant research questions. The TBI-focused neuropsychology resident will have opportunities to interact with our TBI Cognitive Rehabilitation Clinic, the TBI/Polytrauma Team, and Aspire Center, Center of Excellence for Stress and Mental Health, and the Chronic Effects of Neurotrauma Consortium (CENC).

The clinical focus of both positions will be on supervised clinical neuropsychological assessment services sufficient for licensure and board certification. The VASDHS
Neuropsychological Assessment Unit will be the primary clinic for the aging-focused resident, and the TBI Cognitive Rehabilitation Clinic will be the primary clinic for the TBI-focused resident. These clinics provide hospital-wide consultation/liaison services to patients referred for comprehensive neuropsychological assessments of cognitive and emotional functioning as well as for cognitive rehabilitation and allied interventions. The neuropsychology residency will also include optional rotation opportunities where neuropsychological services are increasingly sought and provided (e.g., domiciliary, home-based primary care, inpatient psychiatry, polytrauma physical medicine clinic).

The neuropsychology residents shall have completed a doctoral degree in Clinical Psychology with Neuropsychology specialty training at the graduate school and internship level. The aging-focused resident should already have some experience in neuropsychological and neuroimaging changes in aging and dementia during their graduate/internship training, and the TBI-focused resident should have comparable experience in TBI/Polytrauma. The positions are ideally suited for candidates wishing to integrate cutting edge research opportunities with advanced clinical neuropsychological assessment services and who envision a clinical-research oriented career.

We are in the process of seeking accreditation by the American Psychological Association (APA) for this new program. Questions related to the program’s accreditation status should be directed to the Commission on Accreditation: Office of Program Consultation and Accreditation, American Psychological Association, 750 1st Street, NE, Washington, DC 20002, Phone: (202) 336-5979/Email: apaaccrd@apa.org/ Web: www.apa.org/ed/accreditation

We are now accepting applications and the deadline is December 9, 2018. The positions will start on September 1, 2019. Interviews may be arranged locally here at VASDHS or via internet/phone. The neuropsychology resident will be funded through a postdoctoral stipend from the Department of Veterans Affairs. Stipend amount during the first year is approximately $51,101, with health benefits and co-pay. Interested applicants should send a CV, a representative publication, a research and training needs statement, and two letters of recommendation (including one from a research mentor) by email to Mark W. Bondi, PhD, ABPP/CN, Director, VA Neuropsychological Assessment Unit, and Professor of Psychiatry, UC San Diego.

For further information,
email Dr. Bondi at mbondi@ucsd.edu