Immigrant Families and their Children with Autism in Context: Understanding Developmental Trajectories and Social Emotional Outcomes

The Department of Education Studies at the University of California, San Diego, announces a position for a Postdoctoral Fellow, starting July 1, 2017, in the area of family studies, child development and autism spectrum disorders. The position is for one year with possibility of renewal, conditional upon performance and available funding.

Under the supervision of Dr. Shana Cohen, the postdoctoral fellow will participate in at least three research studies. The first study partners with colleagues in neuroscience to follow early and later diagnosed immigrant and non-immigrant children with developmental disabilities. We will understand how their early education experiences shape social and academic outcomes. The second study will design and evaluate a community-based social emotional program exploring the impact of inclusion for adolescents with ASD. The third study examines Mexican heritage parents’ strengths within a sociocultural framework to understand how they obtain and use autism intervention services.

We seek an experienced researcher with a strong methodological background who has experience or interest in child development, autism, and/or family studies, particularly focused on strength based perspectives. We are especially interested in candidates with substantive experience using qualitative field methods including interviewing and observation, as well as experience with longitudinal data collection and survey data analysis. Other desirable areas of expertise include: multi-level modeling; mixed methods; ethnography; Spanish language proficiency.

The postdoctoral fellow will participate in all phases of research, including instrument development, data collection, data analysis, and publication of results. In addition, the postdoctoral fellow will be encouraged to develop publications that build on her or his emerging research agenda. The position requires the postdoctoral fellow to be willing and able to work individually and as part of multi-site teams, and to provide supervision to research assistants. Travel to local research sites will also be required.

Qualifications
Applicants should have an earned doctorate in education, sociology, anthropology, or a related field. The position carries a competitive salary plus health insurance coverage. Review of applications will begin immediately and will continue until the position is filled.

For questions, please contact Shana R. Cohen at shanarcohen@ucsd.edu; to apply, please send a cover letter, CV, list of 3 references and representative publication(s) to Shana R. Cohen at shanarcohen@ucsd.edu.

The University of California is an equal opportunity/affirmative action employer. Members of historically underrepresented groups are strongly encouraged to apply.