LiU hereby advertises a Postdoctoral Scholarship in Experimental Psychiatry

Research environment

You will take part in research activities at the Boehme lab at Center for Social and Affective Neuroscience (CSAN).

Research at the Boehme lab examines how people develop and maintain a coherent sense of self, and how bodily signals, social touch, and close relationships shape this experience. We investigate how the boundaries between self and others may change across major life transitions and in conditions such as prolonged grief, schizophrenia, ADHD, autism, and anorexia. Across these topics, we combine behavioral research with neuroimaging, neurophysiological, and physiological measurements, psychopharmacology, and structured self-report methods.

The lab is an interdisciplinary and internationally connected research environment. We value openness, mutual support, and constructive exchange, with regular lab meetings, close supervision and opportunities to learn from colleagues across projects and career stages. At the same time, we are ambitious and outcome-oriented: team members are encouraged to take initiative, develop own project ideas, and contribute to rigorous studies and high-quality publications. The lab combines a friendly and inclusive atmosphere with a strong commitment to scientific progress, critical thinking, collaboration, and productivity.

Research project

The postdoctoral scholar will contribute to research on the sense of self across major life transitions. There are several ongoing projects in the lab which the postdoc could join: One project investigates how the loss of a close person affects bodily experience, social functioning, and the reconstruction of a coherent sense of self. This work is embedded in the ERC-funded project The Self After Interpersonal Loss and combines psychopharmacology, behavioral experiments, neuroimaging, physiological measures, and assessments of everyday experience. A second project examines children's social and emotional development during the transition to school, with a particular focus on interpersonal synchrony and its relationship to children's social functioning and self-experience. In addition, the postdoc is encouraged to develop their own research questions within the lab's key areas on the sense of self, brain-body-interaction, and social neuroscience. The precise focus will be defined in relation to the successful applicant's expertise and interests.

Qualifications and requirements

You must have been awarded a doctoral degree or have a foreign degree that is deemed to be equivalent to a doctoral degree. Your doctoral degree must be awarded by a higher education institution other than Linköping University.

If you have not finished your degree, the degree must have been awarded at the latest by the point at which a decision to award you the fellowship is taken.

Your doctoral degree must have been awarded no more than three years before the application deadline for this fellowship. If there are special grounds, applicants who were awarded their doctoral degree earlier may also be considered, for example due to medical internship or specialist medical training, or various types of statutory leave.

The research funded by this scholarship must begin in 2027.

The applicant must have:

- A doctoral degree in psychology, cognitive neuroscience, psychiatry or a related field.
- A strong interest in human experimental research on bodily and social processes underlying the sense of self, and a research profile relevant to at least one of the potential projects.
- Experience in designing and conducting human research studies, analyzing quantitative data, publishing and communicating scientific results in English.

Additional skills:

Experience with one or more of the following is considered an advantage:

- Behavioral experiments, functional magnetic resonance imaging, functional near-infrared spectroscopy, hyperscanning, ecological momentary assessment, psychopharmacology, research in psychiatric or developmental cohorts, clinical trial.
- Experience of open science practices, preregistration, reproducible analysis workflows, or handling sensitive participant data is also meritorious.

Great emphasis will be placed on personal suitability, including responsibility, motivation, interpersonal skills, and a collaborative mindset.

Appointment and Conditions

This fellowship position is funded by The Catharina Högbom & Michael Cocozza Research Foundation and will provide you a tax-free scholarship of SEK 550,000 per year (appx $ 56,000) which will be paid directly to the postdoctoral fellow.

In addition, your research is supported by an operating grant of SEK 450,000 per year paid to the research environment at the department.

Before the third year, the postdoctoral researcher may apply to the foundation for an individual operating grant of approximately SEK 500,000, intended for those who have the ambition and, in the foundation’s assessment, the ability to establish their own research environment. Any operating grant awarded is paid to the

department and made available to the research environment for use in the postdoctoral researcher's research project.

Essential information about healthcare, insurances etc. can be found here. Questions are welcome to lisa.dobrosch@liu.se

Application procedure

The following documents (in pdf-format) must be submitted when applying for a scholarship

- Cover letter, max 2 pages, describing your background, research interests in general and in relation to the ongoing projects at the Böhme lab, and what makes you interested in the fellowship.
- Qualification plan, max 2 pages, describing clearly what qualifications you want to obtain during the scholarship period.
- Publication list, max 5 pages. List the publications in reverse chronological order under 1) The most important publications 2) Relevant publications from the last years.
- CV, max 4 pages, including contact details to three reference persons.
- The protocol from the defense of the thesis or the PhD degree diploma. Where the defense has not yet taken place, the defense application (if not in Swedish, translated into English) must be submitted and a copy attached to the application.
- Copy of passport and MSc transcripts with grades.

The format for the cover letter, qualification plan and publication list is A4 pages in Arial, font size 11, single line spacing. All documents not issued in Swedish or English must be officially translated into English.

The application should be sent electronically to lisa.dobrosch@liu.se. Mark the email with "Högbom-Cocozza Foundation Postdoc - Dnr. BKV-2026-00934 – Boehme Lab" on subject line.

Applications deadline

January 8, 2027