



*The University of Oslo is Norway's oldest and highest rated institution of research and education with 28 000 students and 7000 employees. Its broad range of academic disciplines and internationally esteemed research communities make UiO an important contributor to society.*

*The MultiLing Center for Multilingualism in Society across the Lifespan is a Center of Excellence (CoE) under the Department of Linguistics and Scandinavian Studies at the Faculty of Humanities, financed through the Research Council of Norway's CoE-Scheme. The staff consists of a core group comprising 13 Professors, Associate Professors and Researchers, as well as Doctoral Fellows, Postdoctoral Fellows, Guest Researchers and Technical Administrative staff – in sum, about 40 employees. Moreover, MultiLing has an extensive network of national and international collaborative partners working on multilingualism at various research institutions.*

## Center for Multilingualism in Society Across the Lifespan

### Doctoral/Post-Doctoral research fellowship

#### Description

One Doctoral Research Fellowship (SKO 1017) or Postdoctoral Research Fellowship (SKO 1352) is available at the *Center for Multilingualism in Society across the Lifespan* (MultiLing) at the Department of Linguistics and Scandinavian Studies, University of Oslo (UiO), starting in August 2016. The fellowship is part of one of MultiLing's projects, namely *Language and Communication in Multilingual Speakers with Dementia in Norway* (MultiLing Dementia-project), funded by the Research Council of Norway.

MultiLing is a Center of Excellence funded by the Research Council of Norway and opened on June 1, 2013. It aims to generate scientific knowledge on multilingualism across the lifespan, related to three themes: Individual multilingual competence, multilingual practices in communication and management of multilingualism in society (for more information, see <http://www.hf.uio.no/multiling/>).

MultiLing seeks to recruit a PhD candidate or a Postdoctoral candidate with excellent research qualifications who will work with members of the research project *Language and Communication in Multilingual Speakers with Dementia in Norway* (MultiLing Dementia-project). MultiLing seeks candidates with documented expertise relevant for the MultiLing Dementia-project. The project description can be found [here](#).

The project aims to study (1) how language storage and processing are affected by age alone and by the combination of age and dementia in elderly monolingual and multilingual speakers, (2) what conversational strategies are used to facilitate good communication in the face of challenges and opportunities related to age, multilingualism and dementia, and (3) how questions of ageing, illness, impairment, communication, multilingualism and dementia are represented in policy documents, news media and other public documents. The announced position is mainly devoted to the investigation of the second of these topics (subproject 2), but integration of aspects of the other topics in the project proposal is also welcome. The applicants are required to formulate an independent research proposal aimed at answering the third research question in the project description. The successful candidate will be in charge of the data collection related to subproject 2.

The successful candidate is expected to strengthen the relevant research areas addressed in the MultiLing Dementia-project description, to contribute to and participate in the various workshops, conferences and activities organized by MultiLing, and to be an active member of the MultiLing team in Oslo.

The position is announced as a Doctoral Research Fellowship or a Postdoctoral Research Fellowship. The quality of the applications submitted will decide whether the position is defined as one or the other.

The position is available for a period of three years starting from August 1, 2016. For the PhD position, the fellowship period may be reduced if the PhD candidate has previously been employed in a research fellowship position.

The successful PhD candidate must participate in the research training program organized

by the Faculty of Humanities (cf. [regulations and supplementary provisions for the faculty's researcher education](#)) and must engage in the designated research activities on a full-time basis. The purpose of the PhD Research Fellowship is research training leading to the successful completion of a doctoral dissertation (monograph or article-based) to be defended at a public defense for the doctoral degree. The successful candidate will be automatically accepted for the research-training program (PhD program) at the Faculty of Humanities, UiO.

For the Postdoctoral Research Fellowship there is a 10% duty component devoted to teaching or other qualifying work for MultiLing. The main purpose of postdoctoral research fellowships is to qualify researchers for work in higher academic positions within their disciplines.

#### **Qualifications and personal skills:**

In assessing the applications, special emphasis will be placed on the quality of the project description, its relevance for the MultiLing Dementia-project, and on the assumed academic and personal ability on the part of the PhD candidates to complete the dissertation within the given time frame. For the Postdoctoral position, we seek strongly motivated, competent and internationally oriented candidates, with high-ranking academic qualifications in the relevant area of research.

#### **Qualifications:**

- A MA or a PhD degree or equivalent in Linguistics, Communication, Psychology, Special Needs Education or other relevant discipline related to MultiLing's work (note the requirement of a minimum 2 year MA or equivalent). For the Postdoctoral Research Fellowship, the doctoral dissertation must be submitted for evaluation before the application deadline.
- Knowledge of methodology for the study of spoken (and non-verbal) interaction.
- Excellent written and spoken language skills in Norwegian (or another Scandinavian language) and English.
- Knowledge and experience with data collection and transcription are desirable.
- Knowledge of one or more of the following minority languages in Norway - Punjabi, Turkish and/or Russian - is desirable.
- A project description (5 pages) relevant for the MultiLing Dementia-project.

In the evaluation of the applications, emphasis will be placed on:

- The project's scientific merit, research-related relevance and innovation
- The candidate's international experience and network
- The applicant's academic and personal qualifications to carry out the project within the allotted time frame
- Good cooperative skills, and the ability to successfully join in academic collaboration within and across disciplines
- Personal suitability and motivation for the position

#### **We offer**

- for the PhD position, salary level 50-56 (NOK 430 500 - 475 400, depending on level of expertise)
- for the post-doctoral position, salary level 57-65 (NOK 483 700 - 560 700, depending on level of expertise)
- a challenging and stimulating working environment
- [attractive welfare arrangements](#)

#### **Submissions**

Applicants must submit the following attachments with the electronic application, preferably in pdf format:

- Application letter describing the applicant's qualifications and a specification of how the proposed project relates to the MultiLing Dementia-project (maximum 2 pages).

Project description (5 pages) for the research to be undertaken, including the topic of the project, issues to be examined, the chosen theoretical and methodological approach and a progress plan. See the [template for research proposals](#).

- CV (complete list of education, positions, teaching experience, administrative experience and other qualifying activities, including a complete list of publications).
- Grade transcripts from educational institutions attended.
- Names and contact details of two references (name, relation to candidate, email address and telephone number)

Please note that all documents must be in English.

Publications, MA theses or PhD theses and the like are not to be submitted with the application, but applicants may be asked to submit such information or works at a later date.

The short-listed candidates will be called in for an interview at the University of Oslo or we will arrange for an interview on Skype.

Please also refer to the [regulations pertaining to the conditions of employment for research fellowship positions](#) and [Guidelines for appointments to research fellowships at the Faculty of Humanities](#).

The University of Oslo has an [Acquisition of Rights Agreement](#) for the purpose of securing rights to intellectual property created by its employees, including research results.

The University of Oslo aims to achieve a balanced gender composition in the workforce and to recruit people with ethnic minority backgrounds.

<b>Region:</b>	<b>Expected Start Date:</b>	<b>Reference number:</b>
Oslo	1 August 2016	xx/2016

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