

Saarland University is a campus university with an international reputation for research excellence, particularly in computer science and in the life sciences and nanosciences. The university is also distinguished by its close ties to France and its strong European focus. Around 17,000 students, studying over one hundred different academic disciplines, are currently enrolled at Saarland University. Saarland University is officially recognized as one of Germany's family-friendly higher-education institutions and with a combined workforce of more than 4000 it is one of the largest employers in the region.

The Chair of Speech Science at the Department of Language Science and Technology is inviting applications for the following position commencing at the earliest opportunity.

# **Doctoral Research Position (m/f/x)**

**Reference number W2704**, salary in accordance with the German TV-L salary scale<sup>1</sup>, pay grade: E13 TV-L, duration of employment: 3 years, volume of employment: 65 % of standard working time.

## **Workplace/Department:**

The Department of Language Science and Technology is known for its excellence in language and speech science as well as natural language processing, built on numerous large-scale collaborative research initiatives and internationally recognized degree programmes. The Chair of Speech Science (formerly Phonetics and Phonology) has a long-standing tradition of excellence in the fields of phonetics, phonology, and spoken language and is internationally renowned for its research in the areas of accommodation, prosody, language acquisition, underresearched languages, sound change, speech technology, and pronunciation teaching in second language learning.

To support the research group, we are looking for a doctoral student to write a PhD thesis in one of the above-mentioned areas at the chair and to assist members of the group in conducting experiments. The PhD will be supervised by Dr. Kleber. Your application should comprise a cover letter and your CV including two references.

#### Job requirements and responsibilities:

- Collecting and analysing speech data (auditorily, acoustically, statistically)
- Management of large speech databases
- Coordination of student assistants helping in speech data analysis
- Stimulus creation for and design of speech perception experiments

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> TV-L = collective agreement on remuneration of public sector employees in the German *Länder* 

The pay grade assigned to an employee depends on their professional qualifications and the number of years of service. Each pay grade is further subdivided into levels. Entry-level employees with no previous experience will initially be assigned a level 1 rating. After one year at level 1 of the E10 pay grade, an employee will move up to level 2. After a further two years, the employee will move to level 3, etc.



- · Recruitment of participants for experiments
- Running perception experiments
- Presentation of scientific results at national and international conferences
- Preparation of articles for national and international journals

### Your academic qualifications:

- Completed university studies in Phonetics, Speech Science, Linguistics or equivalent (M.A or M.Sc)
- Language skills (according to GER): English-C2, German-B2

### The successful candidate will also be expected to:

- have experience in using speech processing tools (praat, audacity, EMU-SDMS)
- · have statistics and programming skills
- participate in teaching activities

#### What we can offer you:

- A flexible work schedule allowing you to balance work and family, among other things the possibility of teleworking
- Secure and future-oriented employment with attractive conditions
- A broad range of further education and professional development programmes (for example language courses)
- An occupational health management model with numerous attractive options, such as our university sports programme
- Supplementary pension scheme (RZVK)
- Discounted tickets on local public transport services ('Job-Ticket' of the saarVV)

We look forward to receiving your **meaningful online application** (in a PDF file) by **31.08.2025** to felicitas.kleber@uni-saarland.de. Please include the reference number W2704 in the subject line of the e-mail.

If you have any questions, please contact us for assistance. Your contact:

Frau Prof. Dr. Felicitas Kleber

Department of Language Science and Speech Technology

Tel.: +49 681 302 4350

Pay grade classification is based on the particular details of the position held and the extent to which the applicant meets the requirements of the pay grade within the TV-L salary scale. Part-time employment is generally possible.

If you have obtained a foreign university degree, a proof of the equivalence of this degree with a German degree by the Zentralstelle für ausländisches Bildungswesen (ZAB) is needed before hiring. If necessary, please apply for this in time. You can find more information at <a href="https://www.kmk.org/zeugnisbewertung">https://www.kmk.org/zeugnisbewertung</a>.

Unfortunately, neither costs for attending an interview at Saarland University nor costs for any certificate evaluation by the ZAB can be reimbursed in principle.

We welcome applications regardless of gender, nationality, ethnic and social origin, religion/belief, disability, age, and sexual orientation and identity. In accordance with its policy of increasing the proportion of women, the University actively encourages applications from women. Applications from severely disabled persons will be given preferential consideration in the event of equal suitability.

When you submit a job application to Saarland University you will be transmitting personal data. <u>Please refer to our privacy notice</u> for information on how we collect and process personal data in accordance with Art. 13 of the Datenschutz-Grundverordnung. By submitting your application you confirm that you have taken note of the information in the Saarland University privacy notice.