

Faculty of Psychology and Educational Sciences, Ghent University, BELGIUM

One full-time research position (pre-doc, 4 years, start ASAP)

In the context of the Ayrton Senna Chair @ Ghent University, entitled: “Assessment and Development of Living and Employability Skills in Youth”, we are looking for an additional full-time researcher to assist with studies on the assessment and development of social-emotional skills in (Brazilian) youth. The chair is embedded in the Department of Developmental, Personality and Social Psychology of Ghent University. More info on the Chair and the Institute Ayrton Senna can be found below.

We are looking for someone with strong data-analytic (structural analyses, IRT, multi-level) and academic-English writing skills or with a strong interest to develop such skills. Candidates preferably have a background in social sciences with an emphasis on psychological assessment, psychology and/or education.

The candidate will closely collaborate in an international team, with colleagues from Ghent University, the Institute Ayrton Senna (Sao Paulo), INSPER (Sao Paulo), the University of San Francisco (Campinas), the University of Sao Paulo and the University of California (Berkeley). The position provides an excellent opportunity to build a strong and successful international research and publication track. The candidate is expected to work on a PhD during her/his term.

Remuneration as a pre-doc (WP wetenschappelijk medewerker) according to the salary-levels of Ghent University. More info can be found at:

<http://www.ugent.be/nl/vacatures/categorieen-salarisschalen/salarisschalen/wpwm.htm>

Candidates can send their motivation letter + detailed cv directly to Filip.DeFruyt@ugent.be no later than January 10, 2018. More info can be also obtained at this address or call +32 9 264 64 73.

Institute Ayrton Senna Chair @ Ghent University “Assessment and Development of Living and Employability Skills in Youth”

Chair holder: Prof. Dr. Filip De Fruyt

The Institute Ayrton Senna (IAS) is a Brazilian NGO that has been very active the

past 23 years to support education and educational policy in Brazil. Already during his career as Formula 1 pilot, Ayrton Senna, as a national icon, had the ultimate dream and ambition to deploy an initiative that could contribute to the development of Brazilian youth. After the tragic accident in 1994, his dream got realized and further elaborated by his sister Viviane Senna, psychologist from background training. The past 23 years, Viviane Senna has extended IAS towards a prominent and performant organization, that is also active internationally, among others via intense collaborations with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) in the context of the development of 21st century skills.

In May 2015 IAS launched its own knowledge center, EDULAB21, to provide evidence-based support for the activities of the institute and beyond. In this context IAS installed a national chair at the renowned INSPER management school of Sao Paulo (chair holder Prof. Dr. Ricardo Paes de Barros). To finance an international chair, IAS chose for Ghent University, specifically for the research group on individual differences. The chair was officially installed in March 2016.

The Chair in Ghent conducts fundamental research on the assessment and development of social-emotional skills in youth and young adults. It examines, for example, how individual differences like personality, self-efficacy, and cognitive functioning can be optimally assessed in the school context, to enhance our understanding of key factors affecting developmental trajectories of students. In addition, also the impact of specific interventions on skills' development are investigated. Social-emotional skills are thought crucial to explain a broad set of outcomes, from personal to professional life, but also health and well-being.