Assistant or Associate Professor in Speech and Language Technology

Department of Signal Processing and Acoustics

School of Electrical Engineering

Aalto University

Aalto University

Aalto University is a multidisciplinary community of bold thinkers where science and art meet technology and business.

Aalto University is a university where research, art and education are promoted hand in hand. We are committed to **identifying and solving grand societal challenges** and building an innovative future.

With high-quality research we aim at creating significant impact on the international scientific community, industry and business, as well as the society at large. Disciplinary excellence is combined with **multidisciplinary** activities, engaging both students and the local innovation ecosystem.

Aalto has with nearly 11 000 students and more then **six schools** an 400 professors. We are an international community: more than 40% of our academic personnel have an international background.

Aalto University was **founded in 2010** as three leading Finnish universities, Helsinki University of Technology, the Helsinki School of Economics and the University of Art and Design Helsinki, were merged. Our campuses are located in Espoo and Helsinki, Finland.

The University campus in Espoo is developing into a unique, open innovation hub and a center of collaboration that attracts partners from all around the world. It encourages sharing of ideas, interdisciplinary encounters, creativity, growth and entrepreneurship. The core of the campus will be a vibrant city with versatile services and attractive places to meet.

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More info at
aalto.fi

School of Electrical Engineering

At the School of Electrical Engineering, science and engineering meet society.

Our portfolio covers fields from natural sciences to engineering and information sciences. In parallel with basic research, we develop ideas and technologies further into innovations and services. We are **experts in systems science**: we develop integrated solutions from care of the elderly to space robotics.

Our school has about **2000 students**, approximately 50 doctor's and about 250 master's degrees are completed annually. There are **600 members of academic staff** at the School, of which 60 are professors.

The School's **five departments** cover the fields of electronics, communications and automation. Special fields include automation and systems technology, electronics and information technology, power engineering, communications engineering and bioinformation technology.

The novel research results and systems solutions require committed researchers, hard-working students, modern research infrastructure, and an excellent support organization. Our international and close-knit community is one of our strengths.

A"
Aalto University
School of Electrical
Engineering

Department of Signal Processing and Acoustics

Overview

The Department of Signal Processing and Acoustics (SPA) combines competence in different areas of research fields in signal processing, acoustics, language, speech, and measurements. The research teams are led by 12 professors and one professor of practice. The research groups are:

- Speech Communication Technology
- Speech Recognition
- Speech Interaction Technology
- Audio Signal Processing
- Communication Acoustics
- Virtual Acoustics
- Sound In Virtual Reality
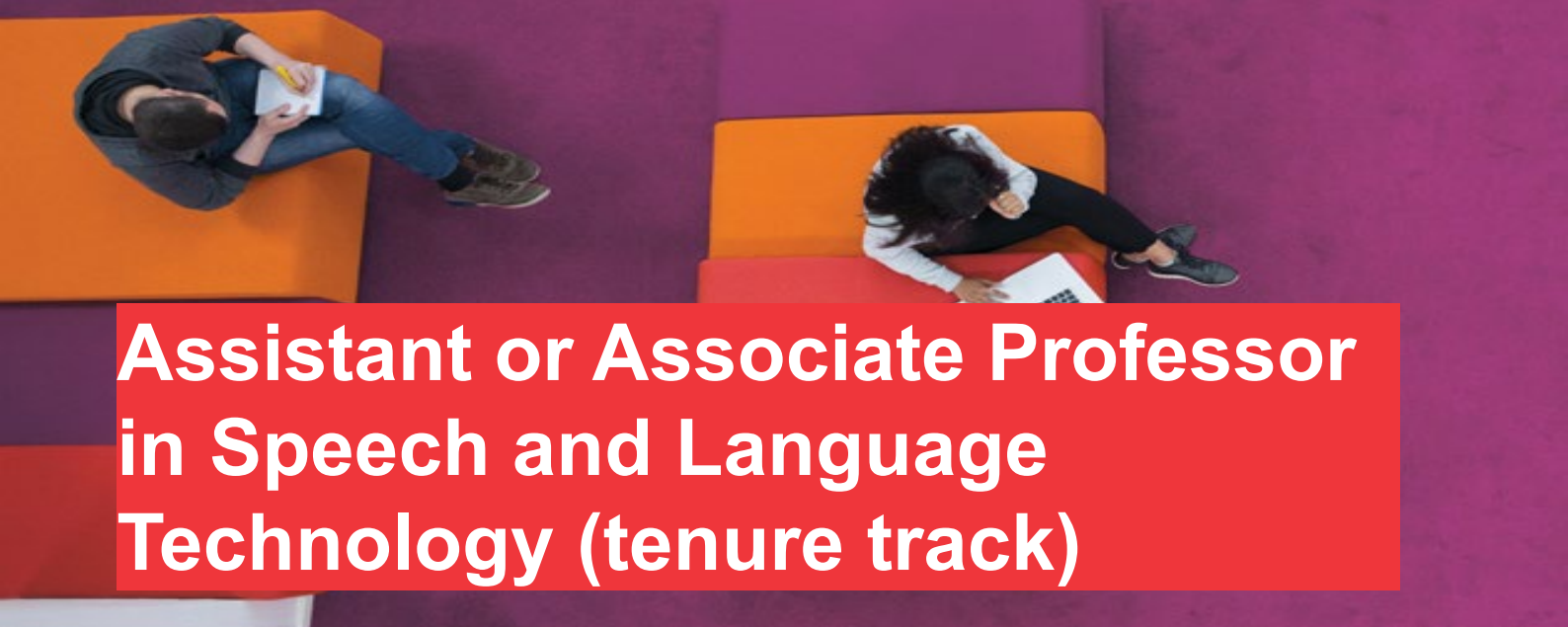- Metrology Research Institute
- Signal Processing

Speech and Language Technology

Speech and language technology is one of the Department's four research focus areas and the area has currently three professors (two tenured, one on tenure track). Professor Paavo Alku leads a group in speech communication technology focusing on modelling of speech production and on speech-based biomarking of health.

Professor Mikko Kurimo leads a group in speech recognition and language modelling focusing on machine learning models, representations and applications for conversational speech. Associate Professor Tom Bäckström leads a group in speech interaction technology focusing on speech transmission, extraction and privacy. These groups are also very well connected to the recently founded Finnish Centre of Artificial Intelligence (FCAI), which is a large collaboration effort for professors in machine learning and speech and language technology in both Aalto University and University of Helsinki

Studies

The Department of Signal Processing and Acoustics contributes to the common Bachelor programmes of the School of Electrical Engineering, contribute arranging the Master's Programme in Computer, Communication and Information Sciences, especially majors Acoustics and Audio Technology and Speech and Language Processing. We also provide post-graduate education through all of our research groups, as can be seen in our Doctoral dissertations.

**Aalto University
School of Science**

Assistant or Associate Professor in Speech and Language Technology (tenure track)

The Department of Signal Processing and Acoustics at the Aalto University School of Electrical Engineering invites applications for the position of an

ASSISTANT OR ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR IN SPEECH AND LANGUAGE TECHNOLOGY (tenure track)

The professorship is open for highly qualified applicants who have demonstrated outstanding machine learning (ML) research in speech and language technology. Experts representing all areas of speech and language technology are eligible to apply, but the candidates must have demonstrated strong expertise in ML. We prioritize fields with a high potential for research collaboration with the Department's current groups in speech and language technology. We expect a strong track record of publications and achievements in ML in speech and language technology, excellent teaching skills, motivation and competence to start and lead new and highly ambitious and multidisciplinary research projects aiming at significant scientific results and impacts. All applicants must have a doctorate in speech and language technology (or in a related area of engineering) and fluent command in English. The teaching responsibilities of the professorship include lectures in ML and in speech and language technology and supervision of theses at the bachelor, master and postgraduate levels.

Your experience and ambition
We are looking for applicants with
• A proven track record and passion to carry out high-quality ML research in speech and language technology and publish in top venues of the study area
• A doctorate in speech and language technology (or in a related area of engineering)
• Potential to acquire research funding and build up your own research group
• Motivation to teach both bachelor and master level engineering students

We offer
• A tenure track position with promotion to a tenured position based on merits
• A competitive benefits package including access to health care
• Start-up funding and grant writing support to help you establish your own research group
• Excellent collaboration possibilities within the university
• Great future in one of the happiest, cleanest and safest countries in the world, with a comprehensive social security system and free education up to university level.

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Aalto tenure track and contract terms
This professorship is a tenure track position and will be filled to the assistant or associate professor level with a fixed- term contract until the tenure review. The salary is based on Aalto University salary system, but you can also provide your own salary request. The University provides a research start-up fund, and we actively assist researchers to apply for available scientific research funding. Getting tenure and advancement on Aalto tenure track is based on an evaluation of your achievements and merits against the Aalto tenure track criteria. Please see the details about the tenure track path at Aalto at https://www.aalto.fi/en/tenure-track/tenure-track-career-path and evaluation criteria at https://www.aalto.fi/services/tenure-track-evaluation-criteria

Scientific environment
You will join the Department of Signal Processing and Acoustics in the Aalto University School of Electrical Engineering. Speech and language technology is one of the Department's four research focus areas and the area has currently three professors. Professor Paavo Alku leads a group in speech communication technology focusing on modelling of speech production and on speech-based biomarking of health. Professor Mikko Kurimo leads a group in speech recognition and language modelling focusing on machine learning models, representations and applications for conversational speech. Associate Professor Tom Bäckström leads a group in speech interaction technology focusing on speech transmission, extraction and privacy. These groups are also very well connected to the recently founded Finnish Centre of Artificial Intelligence (FCAI), which is a large collaboration effort for professors in machine learning and speech and language technology in both Aalto and Helsinki University.

Ready to apply?
Please submit your application latest on 3 April 2022 through our recruiting system Workday (myworkdayjobs.com) by using the "Apply" button below or at the top. Please include the following pdf documents in English 1) cover letter and curriculum vitae (with contact information and the Orchid and/or Research ID number), 2) the list of publications (in which the five most significant publications are highlighted and your role in them described) 3) a research statement describing past research and plans for the future research, 4) a teaching portfolio describing teaching experience and plans for teaching, 5) the list of references/possible reference letters. General instructions for applicants including language requirements and guidelines for compiling the teaching portfolio and CV are at https://www.aalto.fi/tenure-track/interested-in-joining-our-tenure-track.

More information
If you wish to hear more about the position or us, please contact Professor Paavo Alku paavo.alku(at)aalto.fi +358405009867 or Professor Mikko Kurimo mikko.kurimo(at)aalto.fi +358503476221. In case you have questions related to the recruitment process, please contact HR Coordinator Alina Järvinen alina.jarvinen(at)aalto.fi.

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Working at Aalto University

Why join us?

Established in 2010 as a merger of three leading Finnish Universities, we are both **challenger of the old, and traditional with strong history** and legacy.

Our unique combination of fields in **art and design, technology and business enable multi-disciplinarity** and finding clever solutions for the world's most wicked problems in the interfaces of these fields.

We aim for **societal impact**, educating game changers to drive sustainability.

We enjoy working at our evolving **collaborative campus close to the heart of Helsinki**, with good connections, great architecture and amazing nature.

We are **international and diverse**: more than 40 % of our faculty comes from outside of Finland. Our working environment is multi-cultural, widely English-speaking and its easy to settle in, despite of wherever you come from.

We have strong [academic standing and reputation in our key fields](#) – Aalto University is among top 10 of New Universities in the world (QS ranking).

Our **well-functioning and fair Tenure Track career system** enables building a successful academic career, providing support for fulfilling your professional ambitions.

Living in Finland

Finland is among the best countries in the world according to many quality of life indicators, including being the happiest country in the world (UN study 2018).

We are humble people, but dare to say we have **one of the most advanced education systems in the world.**

The Nordic values of **equality and co-operation** are rooted deeply into our society. We are one of the world's top countries in press freedom and consider the many voices in our society a strength.

With high investments in R&D, a strong innovation culture, open data and advanced state of digitalization, we are a nation of **innovation and entrepreneurship.**

Gender equality, flexibility and low hierarchy are at the core of our **Nordic working environment**. Professional ambitions can be combined with a fulfilling personal life.

We are one of the world's most **reliable and stable** nations with low levels of corruption and high level of safety. We are proud to provide exceptionally high standards of social security and healthcare, financed by the state.

Having four distinct seasons, clean air and thousands of lakes, we are some nature-loving people and take good care of our **unique environment.** We enjoy our midnight sun in the summer and northern lights in the winter.

Finnish language is known to be a bit on the complicated side, but don't worry, we Finns are fluent in English, and have an **international mindset.**

We have **wide and reliable transport networks**, with Helsinki airport serving over 100 direct destinations. The comprehensive public transport makes it easy to commute. Our campus is situated within a 10 minute metro ride from the heart of Helsinki.

Want to live in the best country in the world?

More about Helsinki
More about Espoo
More about Finland
More about working at Aalto

Aalto University – a community of game changers

aalto.fi