

Chair of the South East Physics (SEPnet) Graduate School

Contact Point:

Dr E James W West, Executive Director, SEPnet

executivedirector@sepnet.ac.uk

Tel: 02380592267, mobile: 07802248327

School of Physics and Astronomy

University of Southampton

Highfield

Southampton

SO17 1BJ

Scope / Role Profile

A fully developed graduate school is a key ambition of the SEPnet consortium. Its development has the full support of the SEPnet Steering Committee, Chaired by Bill Wakeham and HoDs Management Committee, chaired by Executive Director James West.

The Chair of the SEPnet Graduate School will be responsible for the development of a co-ordinated programme of post-graduate level teaching and research training in Physics within the SEPnet consortium.

It is expected that the Chair of the SEPnet Graduate School will be an established member of academic staff in one of the SEPnet partners. It is expected that the Graduate School role will account for about 15-20% of his/her time.

There is considerable opportunity for the person appointed to develop this role beyond the remit here but always in line with the vision of the SEPnet initiative as expressed in the HEFCE bid document and as subsequently amended and augmented by the Steering and Management Committees. It is envisaged that the Chair of the SEPnet Graduate School will be responsible for, *inter alia*:

- Ensuring that existing opportunities for collaborative post graduate training in each of the four SEPnet research themes are realised.
- Leading discussions that might lead to further collaborative training opportunities amongst the partners.
- Academic leadership in the development of new collaborative post graduate teaching / training programmes.
- Exploring and seeking to realise opportunities to lever third party funds for the support of post graduate students and their training, for instance through bids for Doctoral Training Centres or for industrially funded MSc programmes.
- Ensuring that best practice in post graduate training is widely disseminated amongst partners.
- Ensuring that appropriate academic standards are maintained consistent with the requirements of partner Universities.
- Establishing, and as needed chairing, such committees and working groups as he/she sees fit in order to deliver the vision of the SEPnet Graduate School.

- Ensuring proper and equitable dispersion amongst partners of resources won by, and otherwise available to, the SEPnet Graduate School.
- Arranging an annual MSc Physics (Euro-Masters) conference and other activities leading to opportunities for exchange of MSc Physics (Euro-Masters) students between institutions.
- Developing with others the SEPnet market brand in so far as it relates to research training.

Reports

The Chair of the SEPnet Graduate School will report to the SEPnet Executive Director on all matters relating to the Graduate School. Otherwise, he/she will report to their local Head of Department.

The Chair of the SEPnet Graduate School will sit *ex-officio* on the Heads of Department Management Group Committee.

The Chair of the SEPnet Graduate School will have part-time access and service from a SEPnet appointed administrative assistant in an arrangement to be agreed with their local Head of Department / the SEPnet Executive Director.

Other matters / Appointment process

A Honorarium of £3,000 per Annum will be paid.

The Chair will be appointed for 3 years from 1st October 2010.

Applications will be invited from Academic members of staff of the Partner Departments. Selection will follow interview by a Board comprising the Executive Director and at least two Heads of Department.

P. J. McDonald
25th June 2010

