**‘I Wish I Had Known Earlier’**
**Student-led Online Learning Proposal Guidelines**

GRADnet offers a scheme in which postgraduate researchers create online learning modules to share their knowledge and experience with peers in earlier years. We invite you to participate in this.

Proposals can be to support the development of either technical skills (for example, theoretical methods and tools, or practical physics know-how and skills) or more transferable/genetic skills (for example, Managing your Time, or Presenting at Conferences). Although we have provided these examples, we expect that you will have a much better idea from your own experience of exactly what you wished you had known when you had started or what you had difficulty getting to grips with. These modules are designed to help those coming behind you avoid the same problems.

You are asked to submit a proposal for an online module. The proposal should identify the topic, provide an outline of what a module needs to cover and what learning it is intended to deliver. If selected, you will receive mentoring in Autumn 2016 to help you develop a high quality virtual learning package in one of several possible formats (video, website, text etc). This is another skill to add to your portfolio. Collaborative modules between groups of students are particularly welcomed. You will also receive a £1,000 bursary for each online module you create. This is an excellent opportunity to develop your teaching skills and experience for your CV.

Before you submit your proposal, there will be a chance to discuss your ideas and see what previous students have done via Skype on Tuesday, 25 October 2016 at 11:15-12.15. If you wish to participate in this session please email gradnetadmin@sepnet.ac.uk by midday on Friday, 21 October 2016.

**How to Enter:**

* Fill in above form, paying attention to word limits.
* Email form to gradnetadmin@sepnet.ac.uk by 7 November 2016.

**Bursary:**

Each applicant can propose up to three modules; a £1,000 bursary will be given for each completed module. All modules will be due by 31 March 2017. Bursaries will be paid upon submission and acceptance of each module.

**Specific Guidance**

We want you to identify an aspect of your doctorate experience in which you struggled to learn because there was no course or guidance available, or in which those courses/guidance available did not match your learning needs. The experience of this struggle may well have given you insight into how it could be better taught to meet the needs of other doctoral students in a similar situation to yours. This is an opportunity for you to produce such a learning module while also adding to your CV the skills and experience of designing online learning materials. The financial reward will be a bonus!

**Title of your online learning module:** The best titles are relatively short and let people know exactly what they are signing up to.

**Skill area(s) addressed in the module:** Clearly state what skills/knowledge the module will help develop. Skills can be technical and/or transferable. One module may well help to develop more than one skill or lead to learning several topics. In which case, please list all skill areas and knowledge addressed.

**Short description of module (300 words per module):**Include what specific content you plan to cover in the module, why the module is important to physics postgraduates and who in particular would benefit from the module (what stage of doctorate or area of physics). Also give an idea about how you plan to present it (i.e. video, written content, questionnaire, etc) although you may change your mind following training in online teaching and learning provided to help you develop the skills to make your ideas a reality. You are encouraged to think creatively about how you might use online media. The suggested word count is guidance, 10% more or less is acceptable; however, significant deviations from this suggestion may negatively affect the chances of your proposal being accepted.

**Intended learning outcomes of module (75 words per module):**‘Intended learning outcomes’ refer to the knowledge or skills you would like participants in your module to gain. You may want them: ‘to understand’ a theory; ‘to create’ a bit of code; ‘to analyse’ certain types of data; ‘to write’ a blog; or ‘to develop’ a plan; and so on. Most modules will have several specific intended learning outcomes. A list of bullet points may be an effective way of listing these. The suggested word count is guidance, 10% more or less is acceptable; however, significant deviations from this suggestion may negatively affect the chances of your proposal being accepted.

**Selection**

For this first round we will select those proposals that make the best case, judged by a panel of people experienced in supporting postgraduate researchers, as well as members of the GRADnet Student Representatives Panel.

**‘I Wish I Had Known Earlier’
Student-led Online Learning Proposals Application Form**

Before completing this form read the guidelines above. Email form to gradnetadmin@sepnet.ac.uk by 7 November 2016.

Name:
Email:
University:
Area of Physics:
Year you started PhD:

Title of Online Learning Module(s): Up to three

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Skill Area(s) addressed in module:

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Short description of module (300 words max)

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Intended learning outcomes of module (75 words max)

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