

## **STFC Education, Training and Careers News**

The [Education, Training and Careers Committee](#) (ETCC) met on 21 March 2019. The main items on the agenda were: the Studentship Algorithm; Student Accreditation Process; Ernest Rutherford Fellowships; Fellowship Transfers; CDT Review and UK Research and Innovation AI Outcome; Industrial CASE Studentships; Summer Schools; Analysis of Fellowship Questionnaires; Fellowship Introductory Workshop.

### Studentship Algorithm

In January, departments were informed of their [allocation](#) of studentships starting in 2019. UK Research and Innovation Future Leaders Fellowship holders will be included in the algorithm calculations when it is next run in 2020. ETCC considered the timing of the cycles of consolidated grant rounds and the algorithm exercise and this would be reviewed at the next ETCC meeting. .

### Review of the Studentship Accreditation Process

Ahead of the next [accreditation process exercise](#) in 2020, a panel had been recruited to review the process.

### Ernest Rutherford Fellowships

ETCC noted that 11 Ernest Rutherford Fellowships were to be awarded.

ETCC reviewed the Fellowship Assessment process and recommended merging the Outreach document into the Pathways to Impact document to avoid duplication. More information on what to include in this document would be included in the ERF guidance when it is updated in June 2019. In the next exercise, the Particle Physics sub panel would be split into theory and experiment sub panels when assessing applications. There would also be a reduction in the number of candidates invited to interview. ETCC would be reviewing the process in more detail.

### Fellowship Transfers

ETCC recommended a more flexible approach regarding a fellow transferring their fellowship between institutions in the first year.

### CDT Review and UK Research and Innovation AI Outcome

A review of the eight STFC Centres for Doctoral Training (CDT) in Data Intensive Science had taken place in January 2019. CDT directors had been informed of the outcome and had been provided with individual feedback. The review provided evidence of the benefits of CDTs to institutions, students and engagement with industry which would make a case for future funding. The outcome of the UK Research and Innovation Artificial Intelligence competition for CDTs to support research training in AI challenges had been announced in February 2019. One application in the STFC area of science was awarded to Swansea University in partnership with Cardiff University, Aberystwyth University, Bangor University and the University of Bristol. [Link to the UKRI AI news.](#)

### Industrial CASE Studentships

Twenty two Industrial CASE studentship applications were received in the 2018 round for the three studentships available. The quality of the proposals was mostly of a high standard and ETCC would have liked to have seen more studentships available to encourage further good

industrial partnerships. The closing date for the next round is 3 October 2019 and details of how to apply can be found on our [webpage](#).

### Summer Schools

No bids had been received to host the Introductory Astronomy Summer School in 2019. Following STFC contacting departments informing them that this school was unlikely to run, the University of Kent submitted a bid. Other departments that had expressed an interest in hosting the school would be approached to host in future years.

### Analysis of Fellowship Questionnaires

STFC has analysed the questionnaires of fellows who had completed their fellowship. The key findings and aggregate data from questionnaires received since 2009 are published on our [Fellowship webpage](#).

### Fellowship Introductory Workshop

STFC held its third Introductory Workshop for Ernest Rutherford Fellows in March which was attended by eleven newly appointed fellows. The workshop was for fellows awarded in 2018 and who had started their fellowship between 1 June 2018 and 31 March 2019. The workshop gave them the opportunity to network with peers and hear from previous fellows who gave talks on their experiences during their fellowship and beyond. The event had been a success and will be repeated in the future. Our [webpage](#) will be updated soon with the presentations from the 2019 workshop. STFC plan to hold a networking event for all current ER fellows.