

Candidate Information

Position:	ESR - PhD Studentship in Materials for Phosphorus Recovery and Recycling
School/Department:	Chemistry and Chemical Engineering
Reference:	21/108859
Closing Date:	Monday 7 June 2021
Salary:	Basic salary of £32,016 (with pension) per annum (there is also an additional mobility allowance and where applicable a family allowance).
Anticipated Interview Date:	Thursday 17 and Wednesday 23 June 2021
Duration:	36 Months

Job Purpose

Early Stage Researcher (ESR) (PhD Student) who will be an active member of a research team in the Capture, recycling and societal management of phosphorus in the environment (RecaP) Innovative Training Network (ITN).

The ESR will undertake research and undergo training in the framework of the RecaP project. The ESR will be funded for 36 months through the prestigious Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) ITN programme; an initiative by the European Commission to train creative, entrepreneurial, innovative researchers, who are able to face current and future societal challenges, and will convert knowledge and ideas into products and services for the economic and social benefit of Europe.

The RecaP project brings together 15 PhD students in both industrial and research positions to ensure sustainable Phosphorus changes across the globe. Our international collaboration addresses the world's changing Phosphorus needs by creating a new generation of Phosphorus specialists to become 'knowledge brokers' across disciplinary silos. We will not just explore technical aspects of the global P challenge, but also where solutions can be implemented.

Major Duties:

1. Carry out the research and training activities specified by a personal career development plan (PCDP).
2. Conduct research in interdisciplinary aspects of materials, analytical and environmental chemistry.
3. Undertake mandatory training programs and secondments at RecaP partners, as specified in the work programme.
4. Actively participate in training activities and submit reports in fulfilment of the project requirements.
5. Participate in outreach and dissemination activities promoting the RecaP ITN and the Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA) programme including the use of social media, video-diaries, newsletters, etc.
6. Prepare regular progress reports on the performed research and training activities and present the research outcomes at meetings, project workshops, and to external audiences to disseminate and publicise research findings.
7. Work closely with academic and industrial collaborators and facilitate knowledge transfer between the RecaP beneficiaries.
8. Study and follow the technical literature including academic papers, textbooks and patents to keep abreast with the state-of-the-art in the project topical area.
9. Record, analyse and write up results of research work and contribute to the production of research reports and publications.
10. Carry out routine administrative duties as requested, e.g. arranging research programme group meetings, maintaining research programme group website / social media, contributing to organisation of RecaP project training workshops and events.
11. To work towards being awarded a Doctor of Philosophy (PhD), following the QUB regulations for research degrees.

Planning and Organising:

1. Contribute to the PCDP development and provide regular updating of this plan.
2. Manage own time and meet agreed deadlines.
3. Plan own day-to-day activity within the framework of the agreed research and training programme.
4. Contribute to the planning of research and training activities, reports and publications.
5. Actively contribute to organisation of outreach activities events, such as RecaP workshops.

Resource Management Responsibilities:

1. Ensure research resources are used in an effective and efficient manner.
2. Provide guidance as required to support staff and any students involved with research and training.

Internal and External Relationships:

1. Liaise with research colleagues and support staff on routine matters.
2. Make internal and external contacts to develop knowledge and understanding and form relationships for future collaboration.
3. Attend and contribute to relevant meetings and training events.
4. As a ReCaP MSCA ITN ambassador, contribute to the project outreach programmes by establishing links with local community groups, industries etc.

ESSENTIAL CRITERIA:

1. Have or about to obtain a 1st class or 2.1 Honour Degree or equivalent in Chemistry or closely related discipline.
2. Experience of having carried out research in materials, analytical or environmental chemistry.
3. Willingness to contribute to QUB and project outreach activities.
4. Strong analytical and problem solving skills.
5. Ability to logically conceptualise and summarise the research findings.
6. Advanced analytical skills.
7. Ability to participate in knowledge transfer and demonstration.
8. Excellent verbal and writing communication skills.
9. Ability to interact effectively with colleagues and staff.
10. Demonstrable intellectual ability.
11. Ability to communicate complex information clearly.
12. Ability to organise resources, manage time and meet deadlines.
13. Over the 3-year project, be willing and able to spend time in SDU (Denmark), NUI Galway and NVP (Ireland).
14. Be in the first 4 years (full-time equivalent) of their research careers and not yet have been awarded a doctorate. This 4 year period is measured from the date of obtaining the degree which would formally entitle to embark on a doctorate.
15. Must not have resided or carried out their main activity in the UK for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to their selection for this post.
16. Be willing, eligible and qualified for enrolment in the PhD programme within the School of Chemistry and Chemical Engineering at QUB.

DESIRABLE CRITERIA:

1. Masters qualification in a relevant subject.
2. Evidence of successful research experience (i.e. publications in scientific journals)
3. Employment, placements or work experience in a commercial research environment relevant to ReCaP.
4. Familiarity with website maintenance and the use of social media tools.

ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

This document outlines the eligibility information relating to the ReCaP Innovative Training Network, in compliance with the rules set out by the European Commission.

Mobility Rule

1. The researcher must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies etc.) in the country of the host organisation for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately prior to their recruitment.
2. Short stays (e.g. holidays) are not taken into account.
3. Eligible researchers must not have spent more than 12 months in the 3 years prior to the date of recruitment in the appointing organisation (Queen's University Belfast, QUB). *The "date of recruitment" refers to the first day of employment of the researcher within ReCaP.
4. Refugees: procedures for obtaining refugee status under the Geneva Convention are not counted as a period of residence in the country or organisation (i.e. are not included in (1) or (3) above).

Sanctions Compliance

Nationals or residents from some countries, and for some scientific fields, may be subject to EU sanctions if restrictive measures are in place.

- Clarification may be sought from researchers who are nationals of countries subject to EU sanctions and working in particular fields. A list of these countries is found [here](#).

Eligible Researchers

1. Early stage researchers (ESRs) shall at the date of recruitment by QUB be in the first four years (full-time equivalent research experience) of their research careers and not have been awarded a doctoral degree. *Measured from the date when the degree was awarded which would formally entitle the applicant to embark on a doctorate, either in the awarding country or the country in which the ESR is recruited, regardless of whether a doctorate is or was ever envisaged.

2. Any nationality

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

For additional information about the ReCAP MSCA ITN please visit the RECAP website or contact the Project Manager, Jake Reardon, at jare@sdu.dk