



Engineering and Physical Sciences  
Research Council

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# WILLETTS ANNOUNCES £350 MILLION FOR PHD TRAINING IN OVER 70 NEW CENTRES

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## OVER 70 NEW CENTRES TO TRAIN TOMORROW'S ENGINEERS AND SCIENTISTS

Details of how a £350 million fund will be used to train over 3,500 postgraduate students in engineering and physical sciences, will be announced today by Universities and Science Minister, David Willetts.



Universities and Science Minister, David Willetts

This is the UK's largest investment in postgraduate training in engineering and physical sciences. It will fund over seventy new Centres for Doctoral Training (CDTs), spread across 24 UK universities.

The funding, targeted at areas vital to economic growth, has been allocated by the Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC).

Science Minister David Willetts said: "Scientists and engineers are vital to our economy and society. It is their talent and imagination, as well as their knowledge and skills, that inspire innovation and drive growth

across a range of sectors, from manufacturing to financial services.

“I am particularly pleased to see strong partnerships between universities, industry and business among the new centres announced today. This type of collaboration is a key element of our industrial strategy and will continue to keep us at the forefront of the global science race.”

A total of 1000 partners will be involved in the Centres, leveraging in around £250 million worth of support. Many of the Centres will involve research that connects to key industries and important technologies which will aid innovation and growth. A number of the other Research Councils, including the Medical Research Council and Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council, are also contributing towards Centres with key relevance to their fields of research. EPSRC may announce a further group of Centres if more resource can be secured.

Today’s announcement takes place at a press conference at the top of BT Tower in London where a number of CDT Directors, students and industry representatives will be on hand to talk with media. BT is involved in seven CDTs, providing both financial and partnership support.

Paul Golby, EPSRC’s Chair, said: “Centres for Doctoral Training have already proved to be a great success and the model is popular with students, business and industry. These new centres will give the country the highly trained scientists and engineers it needs and they will be equipped with skills to move on in their careers. The standard of applications for Centres was very high and more could have been funded if we had the capacity.”

Sir James Dyson, design engineer and founder of Dyson, whose firm is involved in seven CDTs, said: “To compete internationally Britain needs to export world-beating inventions which are the result of intellectual property developed by our companies and universities. We must support British engineers and scientists at all levels, rewarding them properly for their work. This investment is heartening, but genuine research and development takes time. Continuing robust investment is required if we are to see the breakthroughs which will deliver the growth we require.”

As part of the event EPSRC’s CEO, Professor David Delpy and BT’s Research MD, Tim Whitley will officially sign a Memorandum of Understanding to cement collaborative working.

This much closer relationship will help to ensure that long-term pre-competitive research in priority areas, which align with EPSRC and BT’s strategies, delivers not just academic excellence, but high levels of economic and societal impact.

**Please note: Members of the press intending to attend the press conference should contact EPSRC in advance as security at the BT Tower is strict and names have to be submitted in advance and photo id presented before entry.**

## CONTACT

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EPSRC press office Tel: 01793 444 404

**Rough cut, edited broadcast and online footage available free and without restriction from:**

[Online Press Office](#)

**Password:** training

**Site live from:** 12:00 GMT, Thursday 21 November 2013

**Media Materials available:** 12:00 GMT, Thursday 21 November 2013

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## NOTES TO EDITORS

### ■ **ENGINEERING AND PHYSICAL SCIENCES RESEARCH COUNCIL (EPSRC)**

The Engineering and Physical Sciences Research Council (EPSRC) is the UK's main agency for funding research in engineering and the physical sciences. EPSRC invests around £800 million a year in research and postgraduate training, to help the nation handle the next generation of technological change. The areas covered range from information technology to structural engineering, and mathematics to materials science. This research forms the basis for future economic development in the UK and improvements for everyone's health, lifestyle and culture. EPSRC works alongside other Research Councils with responsibility for other areas of research. The Research Councils work collectively on issues of common concern via Research Councils UK.

### ■ **CENTRES FOR DOCTORAL TRAINING**

Centres for Doctoral Training are one of the three main ways by which EPSRC provides support for Doctoral Training. The other routes are the Doctoral Training Grant and Industrial Case Studentships. It is anticipated that much of the need for doctoral students in many areas will continue to be met by the DTG and ICASE, which together make up more than 50 per cent of EPSRC's current spend on studentships.

CDTs are funded for four years and include technical and transferrable skills, as well as a research element. The centres bring together diverse areas of expertise to train engineers and scientists with the skills, knowledge and confidence to tackle today's evolving issues, and future challenges. They also provide a supportive and exciting environment for students, create new working cultures, build relationships between teams in universities and forge lasting links with industry.

### ■ **MEDICAL RESEARCH COUNCIL**

The [Medical Research Council](#) has been at the forefront of scientific discovery to improve human health. Founded in 1913 to tackle tuberculosis, the MRC now invests taxpayers' money in some of the best medical research in the world across every area of health. Twenty-nine MRC-funded

researchers have won Nobel prizes in a wide range of disciplines, and MRC scientists have been behind such diverse discoveries as vitamins, the structure of DNA and the link between smoking and cancer, as well as achievements such as pioneering the use of randomised controlled trials, the invention of MRI scanning, and the development of a group of antibodies used in the making of some of the most successful drugs ever developed. Today, MRC-funded scientists tackle some of the greatest health problems facing humanity in the 21st century, from the rising tide of chronic diseases associated with ageing to the threats posed by rapidly mutating micro-organisms.

■ **MRC CENTENARY TIMELINE**

The [MRC Centenary Timeline](#) chronicles 100 years of life-changing discoveries and shows how our research has had a lasting influence on healthcare and wellbeing in the UK and globally, right up to the present day.

■ **ABOUT BBSRC**

The Biotechnology and Biological Sciences Research Council (BBSRC) invests in world-class bioscience research and training on behalf of the UK public. Our aim is to further scientific knowledge, to promote economic growth, wealth and job creation and to improve quality of life in the UK and beyond.

Funded by Government, and with an annual budget of around £467M (2012-2013), we support research and training in universities and strategically funded institutes. BBSRC research and the people we fund are helping society to meet major challenges, including food security, green energy and healthier, longer lives. Our investments underpin important UK economic sectors, such as farming, food, industrial biotechnology and pharmaceuticals.

For more information about [BBSRC, our science and our impact](#) .

For more information about [BBSRC strategically funded institutes](#) .

**LIST OF 72 CENTRES TO BE SUPPORTED**

UNIVERSITY	APPLICANT	TITLE	NOTES
University of Bath	Professor Phil Willis	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Digital Entertainment	
University of Bath	Professor Matthew Davidson	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Sustainable Chemical Technologies	
University of Birmingham	Professor Robert Steinberger-	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Fuel Cells and their Fuels - Clean Power for the 21st Century	

UNIVERSITY	APPLICANT	TITLE	NOTES
	Wilckens		
University of Birmingham	Professor Michael Hannon	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Physical Sciences for Health (Sci-Phy-4-Health)	
University of Bristol	Professor Paul Weaver	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Advanced Composites for Innovation and Science	
University of Bristol	Professor Ivana Partridge	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Composites Manufacture	
University of Bristol	Professor David Bull	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Future Communications 2: Training Tomorrow's Internet Innovators	
University of Bristol	Dr Arthur Richards	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Future Autonomous and Robotic Systems - FARSCOPE	
University of Bristol	Professor Kevin Booker-Milburn	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Chemical Synthesis	
University of Bristol	Dr Terence McMaster	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Functional Materials: The BCFN	
University of Bristol	Dr Mark Thompson	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Quantum Engineering	
University of Cambridge	Professor Michael Payne	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Computational Methods for Materials Science	
University of Cambridge	Professor Robert James Mair	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Future Infrastructure and Built Environment	
University of Cambridge	Dr Robert Miller	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Gas Turbine Aerodynamics	
University of Cambridge	Professor William O'Neill	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Ultra Precision	
University of	Professor	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Graphene	

<b>UNIVERSITY</b>	<b>APPLICANT</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
Cambridge	Andrea Ferrari	Technology	
University of Cambridge	Professor Jeremy Baumberg	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Sustainable and Functional Nano	
University of Edinburgh	Professor Chris Williams	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Data Science	
University of Edinburgh	Professor Michael O'Boyle	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Pervasive Parallelism	
University of Exeter	Professor John Sambles	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Electromagnetic Metamaterials	
University of Exeter	Professor Dragan Savic	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Water Informatics: Science and Engineering (WISE)	
University of Leeds	Professor Jenny Jones	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Bioenergy	
University of Leeds	Professor Peter Jimack	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Fluid Dynamics at Leeds	
University of Leicester	Professor Hongbiao Dong	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Innovative Metal Processing (CIMP)	
University of Liverpool	Professor Ken Durose	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in New and Sustainable PV	
The University of Manchester	Professor Cay KIELTY	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Regenerative Medicine	Jointly supported with MRC
The University of Manchester	Professor Francis Livens	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training (CDT) in Nuclear Fission- Next Generation Nuclear	
The University of Manchester	Professor Peter Crossley	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Power Networks at The University of Manchester	

UNIVERSITY	APPLICANT	TITLE	NOTES
The University of Manchester	Dr Irina Grigorieva	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in the Science and Applications of Graphene and Related Nanomaterials (GrapheneNOWNANO)	
University of Nottingham	Professor Cameron Alexander	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Advanced Therapeutics & Nanomedicines	
University of Nottingham	Professor Steve Benford	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in My Life in Data	
University of Nottingham	Dr Christopher Tuck	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Additive Manufacturing and 3D Printing	
University of Nottingham	Dr Christopher Moody	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Sustainable Chemistry	
University of Oxford	Professor Colin Please	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Industrially Focused Mathematical Modelling	
University of Oxford	Professor Charlotte Deane	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Systems Approaches to Biomedical Science	Jointly supported by MRC
University of Oxford	Professor Christopher Holmes	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Next Generation Statistical Science: the Oxford-Warwick Statistics Programme	Jointly supported by MRC
University of Oxford	Professor Gui-Qiang George Chen	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Partial Differential Equations: Analysis and Applications	
University of Oxford	Professor Darren Dixon	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Synthesis for Biology and Medicine	
University of Oxford	Professor David Logan	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Theory and Modelling in Chemical Sciences	
University of Sheffield	Professor Robert Dwyer-Joyce	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Integrated Tribology	

<b>UNIVERSITY</b>	<b>APPLICANT</b>	<b>TITLE</b>	<b>NOTES</b>
University of Sheffield	Professor Keith Ridgway	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Machining Science	
University of Sheffield	Professor Steven Armes	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Polymers, Soft Matter and Colloids	
University of Southampton	Professor Hans Fangohr	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Next Generation Computational Modelling	
University of Strathclyde	Professor Stephen McArthur	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Future Power Networks and Smart Grids - a partnership between the University of Strathclyde and Imperial College London	
University of Strathclyde	Professor Patrica Connolly	EPSRC CDT in Medical Devices and Health Technologies	
University of Strathclyde	Professor William Leithead	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Wind and Marine Energy Systems	
University of Warwick	Professor Alison Rodger	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Molecular Analytical Science	
University of Warwick	Professor Mark Newton	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Diamond Science and Technology	
University of Warwick	Professor Robert MacKay	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Mathematics for Real-World Systems	Jointly supported with BBSRC
University of Warwick	Professor Stephen Jarvis	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Urban Science and Progress	
University of York	Professor Peter Cowling	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Intelligent Games & Game Intelligence (IGGI)	
Cardiff University	Professor Graham Hutchings	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Catalysis - Cardiff University, University of Bath and University of Bristol	



UNIVERSITY	APPLICANT	TITLE	NOTES
Durham University	Professor Tom McLeish	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Soft Matter and Functional Interfaces	
Heriot-Watt University	Professor David Lane	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Robotics and Autonomous Systems (RAS) in Edinburgh (Heriot-Watt University and University of Edinburgh)	
Heriot-Watt University	Professor Derryck Reid	The EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Applied Photonics	
Imperial College London	Dr Oscar Ces	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Physical Sciences Innovation in Chemical Biology for Bioindustry and Healthcare	
Imperial College London	Professor Peter Haynes	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Theory and Simulation of Materials	
Imperial College London	Professor Dan Crisan	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in the Mathematics of Planet Earth at Imperial College London and the University of Reading	
Imperial College London	Professor John Vassilicos	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Fluid Dynamics across Scales	
Imperial College London	Dr Simon Schultz	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Neurotechnology for Life and Health	
Imperial College London	Professor Wayne Luk	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in High Performance Embedded and Distributed Systems	
Imperial College London	Professor Myungshik Kim	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Controlled Quantum Dynamics	
King's College London	Professor Tobias Richard Schaeffter	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Medical Imaging at King's College London and Imperial College London	

UNIVERSITY	APPLICANT	TITLE	NOTES
Lancaster University	Professor Jonathan Tawn	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Statistics & Operational Research in Partnership with Industry (STOR-i)	
Newcastle University	Professor Patrick Olivier	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Digital Civics	
University College London (UCL)	Professor Robert Lowe	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Energy Demand (LoLo)	
University College London (UCL)	Professor Gary Lye	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Bioprocess Engineering Leadership	Jointly supported with BBSRC
University College London (UCL)	Professor Michael Singer	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Geometry and Number Theory at the Interface	
University College London (UCL)	Professor Alwyn Seeds	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Integrated Photonic and Electronic Systems	
University College London (UCL)	Professor Sebastien Ourselin	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Medical Imaging	
University College London (UCL)	Professor May Cassar	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Science and Engineering in Arts, Heritage and Archaeology	
University College London (UCL)	Professor Nora De Leeuw	EPSRC Centre for Doctoral Training in Molecular Modelling and Materials Science	

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