School Handbook

Information for new staff and research students

September 2016
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Annex 1: School Management Chart
WELCOME BY THE HEAD OF SCHOOL

Welcome to the School of Physics & Astronomy! I hope your time here is productive, fulfilling and enjoyable. This introductory guide is for new members of staff, research fellows, research assistants and postgraduate students.

The School of Physics & Astronomy is part of the College of Science & Engineering. We have our own mission statement, consistent with that of the University but stressing our particular role within the institution. It is:

“To carry out research of world class and use it to maximum advantage for Scotland and the United Kingdom, and to provide training of the highest calibre at both specialist and general levels.”

The School is also part of the Scottish Universities Physics Alliance (www.supa.ac.uk), SUPA is a pooling of physics research and post-graduate education in 8 Scottish universities: Aberdeen, Dundee, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Heriot Watt, St Andrews, Strathclyde and West of Scotland. SUPA, supported by the Scottish Funding Council, is focused on seven research themes: Astronomy & Space Physics, Condensed Matter & Materials Physics, Energy, Nuclear & Plasma Physics, Particle Physics, Photonics, Physics & Life Sciences. The Chief Executive Officer of SUPA is Professor Alan Miller (Alan.Miller@supa.ac.uk). Alan’s University of Glasgow office is located in Room 234.

We are proud of our record in both research and teaching. The School is currently in the top five of ‘Russell Group’ UK Physics Departments in terms of our research income per academic FTE, and in the last seven National Student Surveys more than 90% of the graduating class have awarded us top ratings for the overall quality of their course. Our undergraduate and taught postgraduate courses and degree programmes are accredited by the Institute of Physics.

To give you a feel for the size of the School, we have around 45 members of academic staff, over 80 members of research staff, about 100 graduate students and 50 members of support staff.

The School holds the status of “Juno Champion”, awarded by the Institute of Physics, and “Athena Swan” Silver: these awards recognise our efforts to address the under-representation of women in physics higher education, and more generally to support the careers and development of all of our students and staff – all of whom we expect will cultivate ethical working practices and an environment of mutual respect and support.

We offer courses leading to BSc (Hons), MSci (Hons) and BSc (Designated) degrees in Physics, Physics with Astrophysics and Physics & Astronomy, along with degrees where part of the material is taught in other schools. The most popular combinations are with mathematics and chemistry. We also offer a range of taught Masters programmes, in both pure and applied fields.

The School has a strong research group structure, consisting of nine research groups:

- Astronomy & Astrophysics
- Imaging Concepts
- Institute for Gravitational Research
- Material & Condensed Matter Physics
- Nuclear Physics
- Optics
- Particle Physics (Experimental)
- Particle Physics (Theory)
- Quantum Theory

Funding for research comes primarily from the UK Research Councils (mainly STFC and EPSRC) although we also have substantial funding support from the European Union, Royal Society, industry, government and other sources.
As you can imagine, being a large and complex organisation we need a strong management structure and a diagram showing the form that this takes in the School can be found at Annex 1.

During your time here you will interact with many members of the School. However, for those of you primarily here doing research, your main source of information will be the other members and the secretary of the research group in which you are working. All of those, along with colleagues throughout the School will be happy to answer questions whilst you are settling in. Much more information on the School and its many activities can be found at www.gla.ac.uk/schools/physics.

Prof. Martin Hendry, Head of School
1. GENERAL INFORMATION

PROCEDURES ON ARRIVAL

*Forms to complete:*

Emergency contact form to Ms L Stewart (Room 508)
Safety form to Mr P Barbour (Room 515b)
Please contact your research group secretary for email account set-up and general forms (see page 6 for contact details)

*Obtain:*

Room key from Mr P Barbour (Room 515b)
Swipe card for out-of-hours admission to Kelvin Building (if desired) from Mr P Barbour.
School Safety Regulations from Mr P Barbour (Room 515b)
University ID card from Human Resources (members of staff only)
(The staff identity card can be used to gain access to the Library and the Sport and Recreation Service. Members of staff requiring a new or replacement identity card should go to the Library Service desk on level 2, Monday to Friday between 9.00am and 7.30pm, Saturday and Sunday between 1.00pm and 4.30pm. Please note that you will be required to provide Library staff with confirmation of your staff number, if you require assistance with this information please contact the HR Recruitment Team on 0141 330 3848. Identity cards for honorary/visiting status can also be obtained from the University of Glasgow Library.

*Ensure:*

You notify your room and phone number to Ms L Stewart (Room 508)
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Position</th>
<th>Name</th>
<th>Rm</th>
<th>Ext</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Head of School</td>
<td>Prof Martin Hendry</td>
<td>509</td>
<td>5685</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>PA to Head of School</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Administrator</td>
<td>Ms Lynne Stewart</td>
<td>508</td>
<td>4709</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head of School Administration</td>
<td>Mrs Angela Eden</td>
<td>504</td>
<td>4452</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Coordinator</td>
<td>Ms Jacqueline Heuchan</td>
<td>234f</td>
<td>6584</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Project Coordinator</td>
<td>Dr Suzanne Scott</td>
<td>427</td>
<td>6439</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Administrator</td>
<td>Ms Jacqueline Brannan</td>
<td>234f</td>
<td>8747</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accounts</td>
<td>Mr George Duncan</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>5879</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Financial Transactions Hub Supervisor</td>
<td>Mr Alan Bowman</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>5937</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Storeperson</td>
<td>Ms Agnes Garrett</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>6400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Handyman</td>
<td>Mr Iain Telfer</td>
<td>117</td>
<td>6400</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research &amp; Teaching</td>
<td>Ms Jenny Anderson (IGR)</td>
<td>353</td>
<td>3340</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secretaries</td>
<td>Ms Kirsteen Faulds (Teaching Support)</td>
<td>508</td>
<td>4288</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ms Valerie Flood (PPE, PPT)</td>
<td>479</td>
<td>4702</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ms Karen Hegyi (IGR)</td>
<td>353</td>
<td>4942</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ms Rachael Mclauchlan (A&amp;A, NPE, QT)</td>
<td>608</td>
<td>4152</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Ms Lucy Murray (MCMP, OPT, IC)</td>
<td>317</td>
<td>4707</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>GridPP &amp; PPE Administrator</td>
<td>Ms Louisa Campbell</td>
<td>477</td>
<td>8569</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>CDT Administrator</td>
<td>Ms Michelle Carmichael</td>
<td>234f</td>
<td>5305</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Superintendent</td>
<td>Mr Peter Barbour</td>
<td>515b</td>
<td>4466</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Workshop Supervisor</td>
<td>Mr Gordon Smith</td>
<td>143</td>
<td>5194</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Janitor</td>
<td>Mr Ian Fyfe</td>
<td>Hall</td>
<td>4465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mr Peter MacMillan</td>
<td>Hall</td>
<td>4465</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Accommodation Officer</td>
<td>Dr Declan Diver</td>
<td>606</td>
<td>5686</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>School Librarian</td>
<td>Dr Declan Diver</td>
<td>606</td>
<td>5686</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chair of Safety Committee</td>
<td>Prof Craig Buttar</td>
<td>482</td>
<td>8473</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chair of Research &amp; Strategy Committee</td>
<td>Prof Martin Hendry</td>
<td>509</td>
<td>4712</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Director of Research</td>
<td>Prof David Ireland</td>
<td>517</td>
<td>2223</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Research Coordinator &amp; Impact Champion</td>
<td>Prof Andy Harvey</td>
<td>234b</td>
<td>8606</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Convenor of Learning &amp; Teaching Committee</td>
<td>Prof Douglas MacGregor</td>
<td>515c</td>
<td>4468</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Head of P&amp;A Graduate School</td>
<td>Prof Stefan Hild</td>
<td>250</td>
<td>3636</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chair of Recruitment &amp; Retention Committee</td>
<td>Dr Aidan Robson</td>
<td>483</td>
<td>8082</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Chair of Juno Committee</td>
<td>Prof Lyndsay Fletcher</td>
<td>618</td>
<td>5311</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
SICKNESS ABSENCE MANAGEMENT SUMMARY

When absent from work due to sickness or accident, members of staff are required to comply with the undernoted notification and certification procedures, compliance with which is a requirement for entitlement to and payment of SSP and Occupational Sick Pay, if appropriate.

Notification Procedure
Where a member of staff is prevented by sickness or accident from reporting for duty, he/she, or some person acting on his/her behalf, should notify the nominated representative (check with your Group Secretary to confirm who the nominated representative is for your area) prior to normal starting time as far as is practicable, but normally within one hour of the planned starting time on the first day of absence. This should be as early as possible in order that appropriate cover can be arranged. Details of the reason for absence and the approximate duration should be given.

If the absence results from an injury sustained at work, or is due to sickness that the member of staff considers may be caused by some aspect of his/her work, he/she must notify his/her nominated representative that the absence may be work-related. The nominated representative should ensure that work-related occurrences are reported to Safety and Environmental Protection Services within 5 days of the beginning of the period of absence via the existing incident reporting system. As the University is legally obliged to report certain work-related absences to the regulatory authorities within given time limits, it is important that this information is provided promptly.

If the illness persists for several days, the member of staff should contact the nominated representative no later than the fourth day to confirm his/her continuing absence. When a member of staff’s absence is of a longer duration he/she should maintain contact at the time of submitting medical certificates or at least monthly. Members of staff who have indicated a possible return date from sickness absence should inform the nominated representative of any changes to this date, supported by a further medical certificate.

Certification Procedure
Where a member of staff is absent for any period, he/she on return to work will be required by his/her nominated representative to have a short Return to Work meeting with their Line Manager to provide confirmation of the dates and reasons for the sickness absence.

Where a member of staff has been absent for more than seven calendar days, the member of staff should submit to his/ nominated representative a medical certificate from his/her doctor, or hospital certificate, where appropriate, to cover the period of absence beyond seven calendar days. The reverse side of the medical certificate should be completed before returning to the nominated representative.

Where a member of staff has submitted an open-ended medical/hospital certificate, the member of staff must obtain a final medical/hospital certificate stating that he/she is fit to resume duties before returning to work.

MISCELLANEOUS

Car Parking
Car parking within the University grounds is subject to control. Application forms for parking permits are normally invited from July each year and can be obtained from the Janitor and the Main Gatehouse. For more information, go to http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/central/trafficandsecurity/parkinginformation/
**Common Room**
There is a Common Room on level 4 (R.470). It provides an opportunity for staff and students in different research groups to meet with each other. It contains a drinks machine and many make use of the room at lunchtime and coffee breaks. Information relevant to the whole School is displayed there whilst information relevant to your group is displayed on notice-boards near where you work. Mobile phones must not be used in the Common Room.

**Computing Facilities**
There are open-access clusters of PCs in Rooms 320, 320a and 333. There are also a wide variety of other machines in the research groups. Consult your Supervisor or Research Group Leader for information.

The University has issued a Student IT Handbook, mainly directed at undergraduates, which gives information about University facilities. You can pick up computer information booklets from Computer Services, James Watt Building.

**Disclosure**
Under the requirements of the Disclosure Scotland Policy, successful applicants for research studentships and research positions may be required to undergo a Disclosure check through Disclosure Scotland prior to appointment. This check is necessary to ensure that the University of Glasgow fulfils its legal duties under the Act.

The University will make a Disclosure application to Disclosure Scotland, which will reveal any past criminal convictions (spent or unspent) or inclusion on the Disqualified From Working with Children List. Any non-conviction information held locally by the police may also be disclosed should this be considered relevant to the position.

Please note it is a criminal offence to apply for a childcare position if you are on the Disqualified From Working with Children List.

**Email**
On arrival, please contact your Group Secretary to arrange for IT Services to set-up a GUID (Glasgow Unique Identifier) for you. This gives you a user ID and password which can be used to access most of the IT resources you will need during your time here and will also enable the set-up of your email account.

For information on the email distribution lists used within the School, please contact your Group Secretary for information on the lists available, what ones you should be added to and how to organise these additions.

Please Note: Email is the standard mode of circulating information within the School, so please read your email regularly.

**Financial Arrangements**

**Advances**
Applications for staff (including Research Assistants) business advances can be made by completing the Advance Expense Request form available on the Finance Office web page. Advances can be paid by cheque or through the Payroll system. The completed forms should be submitted to your group secretary for checking prior to being sent to the Finance Office for processing. Please note that all receipts MUST be retained for reconciliation purposes and that reconciliation of all advances MUST be completed within two months of the advance having been given.
Applications for student business advances can be made by contacting your group secretary. The advance will be paid directly into the student's bank account. All receipts MUST be retained for reconciliation purposes and reconciliation of all advances MUST be completed within two months of the advance having been given.

**Advances cannot be arranged overnight. Please allow as much time as possible for processing. All requests for staff advances must be authorised by the Head of College.**

**Please note that individuals can only claim expenses that have been incurred by themselves**

**Expense Claims**

Only travel, subsistence and related expenditure, expenses incurred in business entertaining, car mileage claims and business telephone expenses can be claimed via the expenses reimbursement system.

All other expenditure must be made via the University External Purchase Order and School Purchasing Card systems.

**Staff:** Please submit your claims via the ‘Expenses’ section on the ‘Employee Dashboard’ on CORE ([https://hrportal.mis.gla.ac.uk/pls/coreportal_live/cp_por_public_main_page.display_login_page](https://hrportal.mis.gla.ac.uk/pls/coreportal_live/cp_por_public_main_page.display_login_page)). Note that all members of staff who use their own car for business are required to add their car and insurance details to CORE to confirm that they are appropriately insured before they can claim mileage allowance.

An Expenses Guide is available within the ‘Expenses’ section of the ‘Administrator Dashboard’ on CORE. The guide is updated regularly, but if you cannot find the answer to your query, please contact your Group Secretary for advice.

**Please note that all staff expense claims must be submitted within three months of receipt. This is a University rule and is enforced. Expense claims out-with the time limit will be rejected.**

Please refer to the University’s expenses claim policy for full details of what is and isn’t allowable: [http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/finance/payandpensions/expensesprocedures/](http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/finance/payandpensions/expensesprocedures/)

**Students:** Please use the Students’ Expenses Claim form for expenses incurred. This can be downloaded from the Finance Office web page.

Students may apply for travel support (Section 3), the application forms for which are available from your group secretary.

**Demonstrating:** Demonstrators who will be working regularly throughout the academic session will be given a contract as a member of our Extended Workforce. If the work that you will be doing is not contracted then you will require to be registered as a casual worker. Valerie Flood (R.479) can arrange this.

All demonstrators (whether employed on a Casual Worker or Extended Workforce basis) should claim for their hours **each month** and not wait until the end of the semester. Employees should upload their hours to Core online; instructions on how to do so are available via the following link: [http://www.gla.ac.uk/media/media_450402_en.pdf](http://www.gla.ac.uk/media/media_450402_en.pdf).

Information on payroll deadlines is available via the following link: [http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/finance/payandpensions/payrolldeadlines/](http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/finance/payandpensions/payrolldeadlines/)

**All claims for payment should be submitted monthly. Failure to do so might lead to payment**
being withheld as approval for late payments will need to be sought from HR by the School.

Flexible Working
Information regarding University policy on flexible working can be found on the Human Resources web pages here: http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/humanresources/all/worklife/flexibleworking/

Harassment
Any act of harassment, discrimination, victimisation or bullying may be prima facie grounds for disciplinary proceedings, which may give rise to dismissal. It is the responsibility of the appropriate Head of School, in consultation with the appropriate Human Resources Manager, after being advised of an alleged incident, to investigate fairly, in confidence and without prejudice, the details of such a complaint. Further information regarding University policy on harassment i.e. the Dignity at Work & Study policy and procedure, can be found on the Human Resources web pages at: http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/humanresources/equalitydiversity/policy/dignityatwork/

Induction
New academic staff normally undertake extensive training as part of the probationary requirements of the University.

There are School and College induction meetings for new graduate students in early October. Incoming research staff are asked to attend the following courses which are run as part of the Graduate School Induction Course:

(a) Compulsory (unless already taken at Glasgow)

Laboratory Demonstration Module (3 x 2 hours)
First Aid Module (4 hours)
Radiation Protection (10 hours): for persons who will work with radioactive sources or particle beams

(b) Optional

- Computing Module (up to 16 hours)
  The Glasgow context; word processing; Powerpoint; Excel; minitab
- Library Module (7 hours)
  Information searching
- Communication Skills (3 hours)

For timetable and signing up for these courses see http://www.gla.ac.uk/schools/physics/studentstaff/pags/

Maternity/Paternity/Adoption/Parental/Caring Leave
The School has been commended by the Institute of Physics for its family-friendly nature.

The University makes provision for Maternity/Paternity/Adoption/Parental/Caring Leave under the Human Resources policies in these areas. Further information regarding University policy in these areas can be found on the Human Resources web pages at:

http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/humanresources/all/worklife/leave/matpol/

http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/humanresources/all/worklife/leave/
**Meeting Rooms**
There are 3 rooms within the School that can be booked for meetings. These are R.234a, R.255 (School Reading Room) and R.506. If you wish to check the availability or book one of these rooms, please contact Valerie Flood (R.479).

**Photocopying**
From September 2016 the main School photocopier is to be found on level 1 (R.108 opposite Stores). To use it you will need to swipe your staff card or enter your GUID manually. Presently, the photocopying costs are charged to the School against each GUID.

**Resignation/Retirement Procedure**
If it is your intention to resign or retire you should inform this (including the effective date) in writing to the Head of School, with a copy sent to the Head of School Administration. General enquiries relating to the resignation/retirement procedures should be directed to the Head of School Administration in the first instance.

**School Administrators**
The Administrators are the link between the School and other central offices.

- Enquiries relating to Human Resource issues, including salaries and non-research financial accounts, should be referred to Angela Eden (R.504) in the first instance.
- Enquiries relating to staff recruitment should be referred to Lynne Stewart (R.508).
- If you require assistance with research matters (PAFs, grants etc), please contact our Research Support Team comprising Project Coordinators Jacqueline Heuchan (supporting A&A, IC, MCMP, NPE, OPT) and Suzanne Scott (supporting IGR, PPE, PPT, QT) and Research Administrator Jacqueline Brannan. Jacqueline Heuchan and Jacqueline Brannan are located in R.234f. Suzanne Scott is located in R.427. While the team will have shared responsibility for supporting the School’s entire research portfolio, each Project Coordinator will have primary responsibility for a subset of our Research Groups as indicated above.
- For matters regarding Agresso Web Requisitioning or expenses/advance claims, please contact George Duncan (R.117).

**School Reading Room**
The School Reading Room (R.255) is a lending and reference library for School staff and postgraduate members only. It holds over 5,000 research books, and has back copies of a wide range of journal titles. Current periodicals are Science, Nature and New Scientist. The catalogue is fully electronic, and searchable from the school web pages. Any member of the School whose name appears on the School telephone list may use the Reading Room.

**Please note that the room must be kept locked when unattended.**

Members of other Schools may use the Reading Room by arrangement with the School Librarian.

An electronic lending system is in place in the Reading Room: please scan the books you wish to borrow against your library identity. Periodicals must be signed out. Instructions on how to use the software are displayed in the room itself.

Books from the Physics Collection and the Astronomy Collection are arranged on the shelves according to subject area, first author’s surname and year of publication. Full details of the classmarks and holdings can be found on the Reading Room website.

For more information, go to [http://www.gla.ac.uk/schools/physics/studentstaff/readingroom/](http://www.gla.ac.uk/schools/physics/studentstaff/readingroom/)
**Stores/Accounts**

Accounts - R.117  
Mon-Fri opening hours  
9.00am – 5.00pm

Stores – R.117  
Mon-Fri opening hours  
8.00am – 4.00pm

The University has strict purchasing policies and procedures, which must be adhered to. The University is currently contracted to Clarity Travel Management (all travel within the UK) and Selective Travel Management (all travel out-with the UK) and should be the first point of contact when arranging travel.

There may be occasions on which, for example, the travel companies are unable to meet a special web fare (for example: low-cost airlines). If this is the case, (you may be called upon for proof), travel can be booked on the web by means of the School purchasing card through your group secretary or the Accounts Office in R.117 (please check local purchasing card arrangements with your group secretary).

Please note that all general enquiries regarding finance should be forwarded to Mr Alan Bowman, Room 117 or Mr George Duncan, Room 117.

Enquiries regarding Stores, orders or deliveries should be forwarded to Ms Agnes Garrett, Room 117. Mr Iain Telfer, Room 117 can assist with Handyman/Stores enquiries.

Enquiries regarding research matters (PAFs, grants etc.) should be forwarded to Jacqueline Heuchan, Suzanne Scott or Jacqueline Brannan.

**Telephone System**

The total cost of telephone usage is considerable. Please use restraint in telephoning, and restrict calls to cheap rate periods as far as is practicable. Calls should not be made to mobile telephones if other means of contact are available. (Mobile charges are highlighted in the monthly statement to schools). Overseas calls by research students must be approved by the Research Group Leader, and be as short as possible. Remember that emails are much cheaper than phone calls. The use of the University telephone system for private calls, whether incoming or outgoing, should be kept to the absolute minimum.

Problems with the telephone system or requests to update access should be notified to Peter Barbour, and copied to Angela Eden, via your Research Group Leader.

**Travel Insurance**

All employed/retired staff and postgraduate students within the School, who are traveling on University business, must contact their group secretary prior to their trip to arrange travel insurance. All trips involving an overnight stay and/or air travel are eligible for cover. Please contact your group secretary for further information.

**University Library**

The main University Library (GUL) is the chief repository of books and periodicals. (Note that the Chemistry section of GUL is housed in the School of Chemistry.) GUL can obtain any book or periodical not available from the National Central Library. You need a staff card or matriculation card to get in.
….. And Finally
When leaving the School, please call at the School Office (R.508) and leave details of your new appointment and a forwarding address. Remember to return keys, your swipe card, library books, theses and any other items on loan from the School.
2. POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS

GRADUATE SCHOOL OF PHYSICS AND ASTRONOMY

For more info, please see: http://www.gla.ac.uk/schools/physics/studentstaff/pags/

Convenor & SUPA Graduate School Representative          Prof Stefan Hild
Deputy Convenor                                             Dr Eduard Kontar
Postgraduate Admissions                                      Dr Ian MacLaren
Travel Fund Coordinator                                      Dr Sarah Croke
Postgraduate Progression                                    Dr Lars Eklund
Recruitment/Marketing                                        Dr Christoph Englert
Postgraduate & Postdoctoral Training                        Dr Donald MacLaren
PGT Liaison                                                  Dr Nicolas Labrosse
CDT Liaison                                                  Prof Andy Harvey
Graduate School Secretary                                   Ms Valerie Flood
Finance & Administration                                     Mrs Angela Eden

Postgraduate Research Student Representatives are Monifa Phillips (m.phillips.1@research.gla.ac.uk) and Kieran Hamilton (0906787h@student.gla.ac.uk).

The main function of the School is to recruit postgraduate students and then oversee their progress. It is a component of the:

SCIENCE & ENGINEERING GRADUATE SCHOOL

Head                     Prof Susan Waldron (Geographical and Earth Sciences)
Administrator             Ms Heather Lambie (Boyd Orr Building)

SUPA GRADUATE SCHOOL

All postgraduate students in the School are automatically part of the SUPA graduate school, a pan-Scotland initiative which provides postgraduate education and training to Scottish physicists. The SUPA graduate school coordinators are Anne Pawsey (anne.pawsey@supa.ac.uk) and Christian Killow (christian.killow@supa.ac.uk).

WHERE TO FIND GRADUATE SCHOOL-RELATED INFORMATION

The primary source of information related to graduate school topics is the Physics and Astronomy graduate school Moodle page: http://moodle2.gla.ac.uk/course/view.php?id=7492. The primary communication channel for graduate school-related information is the corresponding Moodle news forum.

In addition, there are useful information sources held more centrally by either the University or the College of Science and Engineering. The COSE PGR Code of Practice (http://www.gla.ac.uk/media/media_426947_en.pdf) gives a condensed overview of postgraduate students as well as the duties of supervisors. Policies, regulations and forms relevant to graduate study can be found on the webpage of the College of Science and Engineering Graduate School: https://www.gla.ac.uk/colleges/scienceengineering/graduateschool/postgraduateresearchstudy/

SUPA-related information can be found on the SUPA graduate school webpage: http://www.supa.ac.uk/graduate_school/graduate_school.htm
SECOND SUPERVISORS
The School will also assign you a Second Supervisor with whom you are encouraged to discuss your work, and to whom you should turn if your Supervisor is absent. Once a year the Second Supervisor (together with the Supervisor) makes a written report based on discussions with the student. You should take this as a good opportunity to discuss your progress.

GRADUATE SCHOOL RESEARCH TRAINING COURSE
The University and SUPA have introduced a variety of formal training courses for postgraduate students, covering advanced topics in physics and also generic, transferable skills that are geared towards enhancing future employment prospects. The latter include aspects such as communication, presentation and writing skills, computing, research project management and entrepreneurial skills and extend to off-campus residential courses; they tend to be popular and must be booked in advance.

All new research students are required to gain credited by attending these courses and a training log must be submitted each year alongside your annual research progress report. Further details may also be found on the Postgraduate Research Student Moodle pages and also through the webpages of the SUPA Graduate School and the College of Science and Engineering Graduate School.

New students must, at an early stage, consult with their supervisor to agree a programme of lectures and training courses to take. They will be expected to complete the courses agreed with their supervisors, who will be asked to confirm that they are satisfied with the student’s attendance at the end of each year of study. Prof Hild is the School representative on the SUPA Graduate School Board.

Attendance at the general School Colloquia on Wednesday afternoons is also an important part of everyone’s postgraduate training and is compulsory. These colloquia are advertised by email and on the School website (click on “Colloquia”). We expect each first year student to provide a short summary of each School Colloquium they have attended, with an attendance record of at least 70%, unless the student is working abroad or involved in laboratory demonstration. Most research groups will also hold more specialised seminars, advertised on individual group websites. You should consult your supervisor in early October for advice on which of these lectures and seminars are relevant to your work. Students must take the courses assigned by their supervisor. Participation in courses and assessment is normally required for continuation into 2nd year.

DEMONSTRATING (EXTENDED WORKFORCE)
Demonstrating duties of up to six hours weekly are allocated by the Convenor of Learning and Teaching. It is presently the case that postgraduate students are paid for carrying out these duties, which therefore provide both useful teaching experience and money. The University requires all lab demonstrators to be trained. A training session will be organised by the Head of the lab you will be working in. You must also attend the general Graduate Teaching Assistants (GTA) course provided by the Learning and Teaching Centre. More details can be found at: http://www.gla.ac.uk/services/learningteaching/taughtcourses/graduateteachingassistantsstatutorytraining/. You should sign up for this course as soon as practicable after you start your studies.

Full time PhD students are normally expected to demonstrate in, at least, 5 semesters during their careers. Demonstrating normally starts in the 2nd semester. Exceptions are made for those on extended long term attachments abroad.

PhD students will normally be issued a contract as part of the “extended workforce” of the University of Glasgow. The contract will state the minimum (i.e. guaranteed) number of hours of work appropriate for the duties that are allocated. This normally covers the time spent in the lab(s)
teaching students. The contracts are flexible and do not themselves limit the number of hours of work that we may request to be carried out. As well as face to face teaching, payments will be made for training within the School that the lab head may require you to attend (there is no payment for the GTA course, however), for marking, and for any other duties requested by the lab head, up to a total of 132 hours over the session (i.e. 6 hours per week on average over 22 teaching weeks).

Payments for demonstrating will be claimed using an online form each month. The lab heads will check and approve the claims online, and approved payments will be made to nominated bank accounts. The claims procedure is new for session 16/17 and further detail will be provided in due course. The rate of pay is currently set at the lowest point on Grade 5 of the University salary scale, converted to an hourly rate in line with UK employment legislation. To avoid tax being deducted, tax exemption forms should be completed at the start of each session, new PhD students will also be asked to supply “right to work” documentation before contracts are issued. Help and advice regarding contracts or payments will be available in the first instance from the PPE Secretary – Miss Valerie Flood.

RESEARCH PROGRESS REPORTS
First, second and third year research students are required to submit research reports at the beginning of May each year. These reports, which should be discussed in advance with your Supervisor, give you the opportunity to consider your progress and formulate plans for future work. It also allows problems to be identified at an early stage and gives the School the opportunity to check that you are making good progress. Detailed notes, and submission dates, will be sent to you nearer the time. Mini-vivas will be held during May and June to review the progress. This is a further opportunity for identifying problems. At the beginning of your third year, you will be asked to submit a thesis plan, together with your report. Near the end of your third year, normally in May/June, you will be asked to give a short talk to the School on your research. As well as being a good opportunity to practice your presentation skills, this has the important purpose of informing the School as a whole about your research.

POSTGRADUATE COMMITTEE
There are two research students who represent the interests of research students on the School Graduate Committee and who provide feedback to the student representative on the College Graduate School Board. The representatives are encouraged to act as a channel between the postgraduate student body and the School Graduate Committee, should any issues arise which are of particular concern to postgraduate students (although of course students may still approach a member of the Graduate School individually if they have a problem which they wish to discuss). Examples of relevant issues are: providing student feedback on School or College training courses (including proposing topics for future courses); updating students on changes in University, STFC or EPSRC policy; discussing arrangements for postgraduate demonstrating in the School. The current representatives are Monifa Phillips (m.phillips.1@research.gla.ac.uk) and Kieran Hamilton (0906787h@student.gla.ac.uk).
3. **TRAVEL SUPPORT**

Advance approval is needed if School support is required.

**WARNING: FINANCIAL PROCEDURES TAKE TIME - PLAN AHEAD**

You must follow the purchasing procedures for travel tickets listed in the sections **CLAIM FORMS** and **STORES/ACCOUNTS** above.

Keep photocopies of all claims, promises of support *etc.* Receipts are required for all expenditure.

**RESEARCH FELLOWS and RESEARCH ASSISTANTS**

Discuss travel plans with your Research Group Leader or the Principal Investigator on the grant that funds you as early as possible. Funding is organised *via* the Research Group Leader. (See NOTES II.)

**RESEARCH STUDENTS**

Discuss your plans with your Supervisor. Read the following NOTES I and apply to Dr Sarah Croke on the form "Application for Postgraduate Student Conference and Summer School Support Grants" available from [http://www.gla.ac.uk/schools/physics/studentstaff/pags/travel/](http://www.gla.ac.uk/schools/physics/studentstaff/pags/travel/) or the PGR Moodle page.
1. In order to avoid unnecessary delay, sections 1, 2 and 3 of the application form should be completed and, after signature, given to your Supervisor for his/her comments. The form is then passed to Dr Sarah Croke, for approval.

2. Applications must be submitted a minimum of **one month in advance** of the proposed conference. More notice is always helpful. For Section 3, ensure you have realistic total costings for your Conference/ School. In the "Comments" section give details of student reductions in travel and registration fees, and anything else of relevance. Note that expenses for "fieldwork" at CERN or other like institutions are not covered by this form and are arranged directly through research groups.

3. Apply to the Barber Fund of the Institute of Physics, subject groups of the IoP, or any appropriate source for additional funding. Note that this must be done several months in advance. Non-application for additional support will be taken into account in the sum awarded. IoP Conferences often offer lower registration fees to student members of the Institute. Student membership of the IoP will be assumed in calculating the award. Additional funds for helping with care can be applied for through the IoP at the following web address: [http://www.iop.org/about/grants/carers/page_56789.html](http://www.iop.org/about/grants/carers/page_56789.html)

4. Although separate claims may not be made direct to the Research Councils for additional support for attending conferences in the UK or overseas, STFC do allow students **attending Schools overseas** to make a supplementary claim. Those wishing to attend such a School **must** make such a claim and report the amount requested in the "other support" box. This does not apply to EPSRC students, or in either case for Schools in the UK. If you are unsure if a particular meeting counts as a conference or a school, ask your supervisor for advice.

5. For travel arrangements, students should consult with the secretary of their research group.

6. Research students travelling on University business (including conferences) are covered by the University insurance scheme but must provide details of their business, via the group secretary, before leaving Glasgow.

7. Research Council funded students can expect Conference and School Support at the level of £550 per year or approximately £1925 over the course of 3.5 years. It is expected that this will fund all or part of their attendance at a conference, with any balance of funding required being supplied through the research group.

8. Lord Kelvin travel fund and Charles Lindie Mitchell Bequest: PhD students may also apply for travel support to the Lord Kelvin Fund and the Charles Lindie Mitchell Bequest. The School issues an annual call for travel proposals from PhD students for support from these funds, which is usually sent by email in February with a closing date of early March each year. Proposals should be in the region of £500-£3000, and can be used to attend and present at a conference, or to support a visit to another institute to carry out research. Preference is given to non-RCUK students who do not have access to other sources of travel funds, but all students with a suitable proposal are encouraged to apply. Students supported by the funds are known as Lord Kelvin scholars or as Charles Lindie Mitchell scholars, and in each case are required to submit a short report on how the funds were used after their return to Glasgow.

9. **Arrangements for payment should be made through the School.** Travel can be arranged in advance by external purchase order or by school purchasing card. Cash advances can also be arranged, but as much notice as possible must be given. For further details about these arrangements, contact your Group Secretary.

10. Reconciliation of all advances must be made within two months of the visit. All claims for University funds **must be supported by receipts and sufficient itemisation to enable the account to be audited**. If in doubt about what will be required, consult your Group Secretary or George Duncan (R.117). Claims submitted without receipts must obtain College authorisation before being submitted to the Finance Office for payment.
Notes II (for Research Fellows and Research Assistants)

1. Discuss with your Research Group Leader, a minimum of one month in advance, the proposed conference or research visit. More notice is always helpful. He/she may decide that you should apply for the limited School support that is available. The form is available from the Accounts Office in R.117.

2. Staff travelling on University business (including Conferences) are covered by the University insurance scheme. Staff should arrange insurance via their Group Secretary at least two weeks before departure. A cover note will be provided and emailed in advance of the trip. No claim for insurance fees paid under any other scheme will be accepted.

3. Travel requests MUST be directed to the Group Secretary in the first instance, especially when a contribution to travel is made from University funds. However, see also STORES/ACCOUNTS above.

4. Travel can be arranged by school purchasing card or external purchase order. Cash advances can also be arranged but as much notice as possible should be given. For further details, contact the Accounts Office.

5. Reconciliation of advances must be made within two months of the advance being given. The Staff Business Advance Reconciliation form is attached to the original Business Advance form but it can also be downloaded from the Finance Office web page. The reconciliation form should be submitted to Jacqueline Heuchan for processing. All claims for University funds must be supported by receipts and sufficient itemisation to enable the account to be audited. If in doubt about what will be required, consult Angela Eden. Any claims submitted without receipts must obtain College authorisation before being submitted to Finance Office for payment.