Probationary review for the EPSRC CDT in Photovoltaics

Cambridge is one of seven partner institutions in the EPSRC CDT in New & Sustainable Photovoltaics (see http://www.cdt-pv.org/training.php.)

In Cambridge, the CDT is led in Physics by Prof Neil Greenham and in MSM by Prof Judith Driscoll. Each student is registered in one of the host institutions as a probationary PhD student, depending on who is the intended PhD supervisor.

In this particular CDT, there is no examination for a masters qualification at the end of the first year, so the course does not have a formal 1+3 structure. However, each of the seven two-week training modules (each offered by one of the partner institutions) is assessed on a points system and in some cases by examination.

The Degree Committee for the Faculty of Physics & Chemistry has agreed that, in line with the CDT’s policy set out in its Student Handbook, progression to year 2 should depend on both the first year research report and the student’s results in the assessed taught elements of the CDT programme.

The CDT Director will be asked to provide certification that the student has met the programme’s criteria for progression in the taught elements. This evidence should be submitted by the Cambridge PhD supervisor as an attachment to his or her registration report in CamSIS. It will then be reviewed by the Department and the Degree Committee alongside the Assessors’ reports on the research element and the Supervisor's own report, in the normal way.

The following form of assessment will therefore apply for Cambridge students:

- a **research report** will be submitted and assessed in the usual way by two Assessors taking into account the volume of research it is reasonable to expect given the structure of the course;
- the **deadline for submission** of the report will take account of time out for taught elements in the first year: CDT PV students must submit by 01 September regardless of their department;
- the **word limit** for the research report will be the same as for the probationary review in which the student is located, so 12,000 words in Physics and 15,000 words in MSM;
- **confirmation by the CDT directorate** of a) at least 200 points from the completion of the modules and b) a **pass** in the examinations

Approved 29 May 2015