

An STFC PhD studentship in Space Plasma or Solar Physics Research (start date: Sept/Oct 2014)

The Space Systems Laboratory (<http://ssg.group.shef.ac.uk/ssg2013/index.htm>) in the Department of Automatic Control and Systems Engineering at the University of Sheffield is a world leading centre in advanced analytical/numerical modelling, analysis of high-resolution observations obtained by cutting-edge ground and space based instruments, shock physics and space weather prediction. It is actively involved in several current missions, such as the European Space Agency's Venus Express and Cluster missions.

We are looking for a bright and motivated UK student with a minimum of a 2:1 degree in Physics or a relevant subject (e.g. Aerospace or Systems Engineering) to study for a PhD within the group.

The successful applicant will receive a full scholarship for three years which will cover fees and an annual maintenance allowance of £13,863.

There are several topics for potential study:

- Shock physics (including planetary and interplanetary shocks)
- Plasma processes related to atmospheric loss at Venus
- Space weather
- General MHD wave theory with astrophysical applications
- Heating of the solar atmosphere: MHD waves, jets, etc.
- Novel ground-based and satellite observations of the Sun-Earth system
- Sun-Earth data analysis
- Energy transfer mechanisms in the Sun-Earth system

APPLICATIONS WILL ONLY BE CONSIDERED FROM UK STUDENTS (or students who qualify for equivalent UK status as detailed by STFC <http://www.stfc.ac.uk/1512.aspx>)

All applications should be made directly through the central University of Sheffield application portal: <http://www.shef.ac.uk/postgraduate/online>

The DEADLINE for applications is 31st August 2014

For further information please contact Dr Simon Pope (s.a.pope@sheffield.ac.uk)