China Scholarship Council – Newcastle University PhD Scholarships

We invite outstanding and highly-motivated Chinese students to submit a joint application with the Quantum Photonics Group (led by Dr Jonathan Mar) for a China Scholarship Council (CSC) – Newcastle University PhD Scholarship. As part of the School of Mathematics, Statistics and Physics at Newcastle University, the Quantum Photonics Group performs experimental research at the intersection of solid-state quantum optics and nanophotonics for applications in quantum computing and quantum communication and cryptography.

The successful applicant will work on a PhD project that investigates single-photon emitters and carrier spins in 2D materials, III-V epitaxial quantum dots, and diamond, and explore their optical coupling to nanophotonic devices. Laboratory work will include high-resolution optical spectroscopy, nanoscale device fabrication, state-of-the-art electron microscopy, and theoretical device modelling; therefore, previous experience using these techniques will be an asset. The successful applicant will also have the opportunity to work closely with collaborators at top research institutions in the UK and internationally, including those at Cambridge University and the National Institute for Materials Science (Japan).

The successful applicant will be joining a world-class school and university, have access to state-of-the-art research facilities including those at nanoLAB and NEXUS, and have the opportunity to engage with world-leading academics, including those at the Joint Quantum Centre.

In the latest REF2014, our School is ranked in the Top 10 for both research output and research impact and 11th overall. A founding member of the prestigious Russell Group of research-intensive universities in the UK, Newcastle University is consistently ranked as one of the Top 150 universities in the world (QS World University Rankings 2020). The University is centrally located in the beautiful and cosmopolitan city of Newcastle-upon-Tyne, which is ranked No.1 for affordability (QS Best Student Cities 2019), No.4 for social life (THE Student Experience Survey 2018), and in the Top 3 for both safety and friendliness (Unbroken Britain Survey 2018) in the UK.

Potential applicants are strongly encouraged to contact Dr Mar (jonathan.mar@newcastle.ac.uk) for further information and informal discussions before applying.

Value of Award: Full tuition fees will be funded by Newcastle University. CSC will provide a living allowance, including the cost of a return flight from China to the UK, accommodation and subsistence, depending on the applicant's eligibility.

Start Date and Duration: September 2021 for 48 months

Application Closing Date: January 31, 2021

Eligibility Criteria: Details of the eligibility criteria and further information for this scholarship can be found at: https://www.ncl.ac.uk/postgraduate/funding/sources/internationalnoneustudents/cscnu21.html

Additionally, an enthusiasm for research, an ability to think and work independently, excellent analytical skills and strong verbal and written communication skills are essential requirements.

How to Apply: You must apply through the University’s online postgraduate application form at: http://www.ncl.ac.uk/postgraduate/apply/

Select ‘PhD Physics (FT) (Experimental)’ as the programme of study. Also, attach a cover letter stating that you wish to join the research group of Dr Jonathan Mar in the School of Mathematics, Statistics and Physics, and how your research interests and experience are suitable for joining Dr Mar’s research group.

Applicants must also state in the funding section of their PhD application that they wish to be considered for a China Scholarship Council – Newcastle University PhD Scholarship. The University will consider applicants based on their PhD application; there is no separate scholarship application form to complete. Successful candidates will be required to apply to the CSC, satisfy the selection criteria set out by the CSC (details can be found at: https://www.chinesescholarshipcouncil.com/), and must inform Newcastle University of the progress of their CSC application and interview date.