

Three EPSRC funded PhD studentships in the Information Systems and Innovation Group, Department of Management, London School of Economics and Political Science.

The Information Systems and Innovation Group (ISIG) has available three funded PhD studentships to start from October 2009.

Applications are sought from suitable qualified candidates who wish to undertake doctoral research in the following broad areas: Information infrastructures, grids and cloud computing; Information systems in healthcare; Mobility and ubiquitous computing.

These areas are indicative of fields within which ISIG has active research programmes. While we are interested in potential applicants from all areas of information systems which are appropriate to EPSRC interests, we do expect applicants to take some points of departure from our current research interests and to work as members of active research groups.

For further information on current research in these areas see:

Information Infrastructures, Grids and Cloud Computing:

The Pegasus project (Dr Will Venters <http://personal.lse.ac.uk/venters>) <http://www.pegasus.lse.ac.uk/> is currently researching the work practices of UK Particle Physicists as they construct the world's largest Grid infrastructure for their research at the Large Hadron Collider at CERN, Geneva. The focus of this research is upon how the community develops such a Grid in a widely distributed and highly improvised manner rather than on the technology of the Grid itself. Future research might explore how particle physicists at CERN maintain this Grid to support new research practices (perhaps with a wider focus on so-called e-Research) or on the development and use of Grid and Cloud computing within other sectors (e.g. financial services, engineering, healthcare) and their impact on work within these sectors. Connected to this research is an interest in how Cloud Computing, Grids and Information Services change the 'knowledge work' of systems developers and users within globally distributed organisations and networks. In particular how does the shift to services enable and demand new work practices among these groups?

Healthcare information systems:

Current research underway in ISIG includes two projects funded by the Connecting for Health Evaluation Programme. One is concerned with the electronic transmission of prescriptions, and the other with the implementation of the NHS Care Records Service. (Dr Tony Cornford, Dr Ela Klecun, Dr Will Venters). This research is focused around evaluations of implementation activities as processes, and their associated outcomes. Associated work may take this further and address issues of the applicability of the socio-technical approach in health subsystems development and deployment, innovation and transformation through technology in health care, the representation of patient interests, and the making of appropriate evidence as to what works,

and what does not. The work of the group also links health care innovation to new models of open and user-led innovation.

http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/LSEHealth/health_information_systems_group.htm

http://www.pcpoh.bham.ac.uk/publichealth/cfhed/documents/NHS_CFHEP_005_Summary_and_Protocol.pdf

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Mobility and ubiquitous computing

The mobility@lse research unit (mobility.lse.ac.uk), led by Dr Carsten Sorensen (www.carstensorensen.com), has since 2001 studied organisational and societal implications of mobile and ubiquitous information technology. The research has over the years built up a large body of research and empirical studies covering a range of issues spanning innovative organisational practices with mobile and ubiquitous technology, to studies of innovation networks in the mobile sector. A current interest is in particular understanding mobile services. So far 9 doctoral students associated with the unit have successfully completed their doctoral studies. The unit will from January 2008 be engaged in two projects co-founded by EPSRC and Mobile VCE (www.mobilevce.com) on flexible mobile networks and future user interaction. We are generally open to any applications within the domain of social and organisational aspects of mobile, pervasive and ubiquitous computing.

Scholarship details and application process

Each scholarship includes an allowance for training / conferences, tuition fees and a tax-free stipend of around £12,000 per annum, subject to satisfactory progress.

Studentships will be associated with the ISIG PhD programme (<http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/informationSystems/PhDProgramme/Default.htm>) and applicants will need to satisfy the conditions of entry to the ISIG PhD programme (see <http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/informationSystems/PhDProgramme/applying.htm#1>) as well as satisfy the residency eligibility requirements of the funding councils (see <http://www.epsrc.ac.uk/PostgraduateTraining/StudentEligibility.htm>)

For further information about the studentships, please contact Frances White (f.white@lse.ac.uk) in the first instance.

Information on the application procedure is available at:

<http://www.lse.ac.uk/collections/informationSystems/PhDProgramme/Default.htm>

The initial deadline for applications is 1 May 2009, though we will remain interested in discussing possible applications beyond that date

About the Information Systems and Innovation Group

The Information Systems and Innovation Group at LSE is one of the largest of its kind in the world. It is well known for its research and teaching in the social, political and economic dimensions of information and communications technology. It covers most areas of information systems and represents a range of academic approaches and specialisms, from systems design and management to theory and philosophy.

It is explicitly international and informed by all the social sciences found at LSE. The group has always been able to take advantage of its prominent position within LSE—the only UK institution specializing solely in the social sciences.

A large number of its graduate offerings involve close and fruitful collaboration with the other groups in the Department of Management and other departments and institutes in the School, notably the European Institute, the Law Department, LSE Health, the Departments of Accounting and Media@lse.

There are 16 full-time academics (4 professors, 3 readers, 6 senior lecturers and 3 lecturers) in the Information Systems and Innovation Group. We also benefit from the contributions of our Visiting Professors all of whom are scholars of international repute and leaders in the field and Research and Visiting Fellows who are experts in their respective field. The Head of Group is Professor Leslie Willcocks, a leading expert on outsourcing who works with and advises many leading international companies.