



Physics Scotland

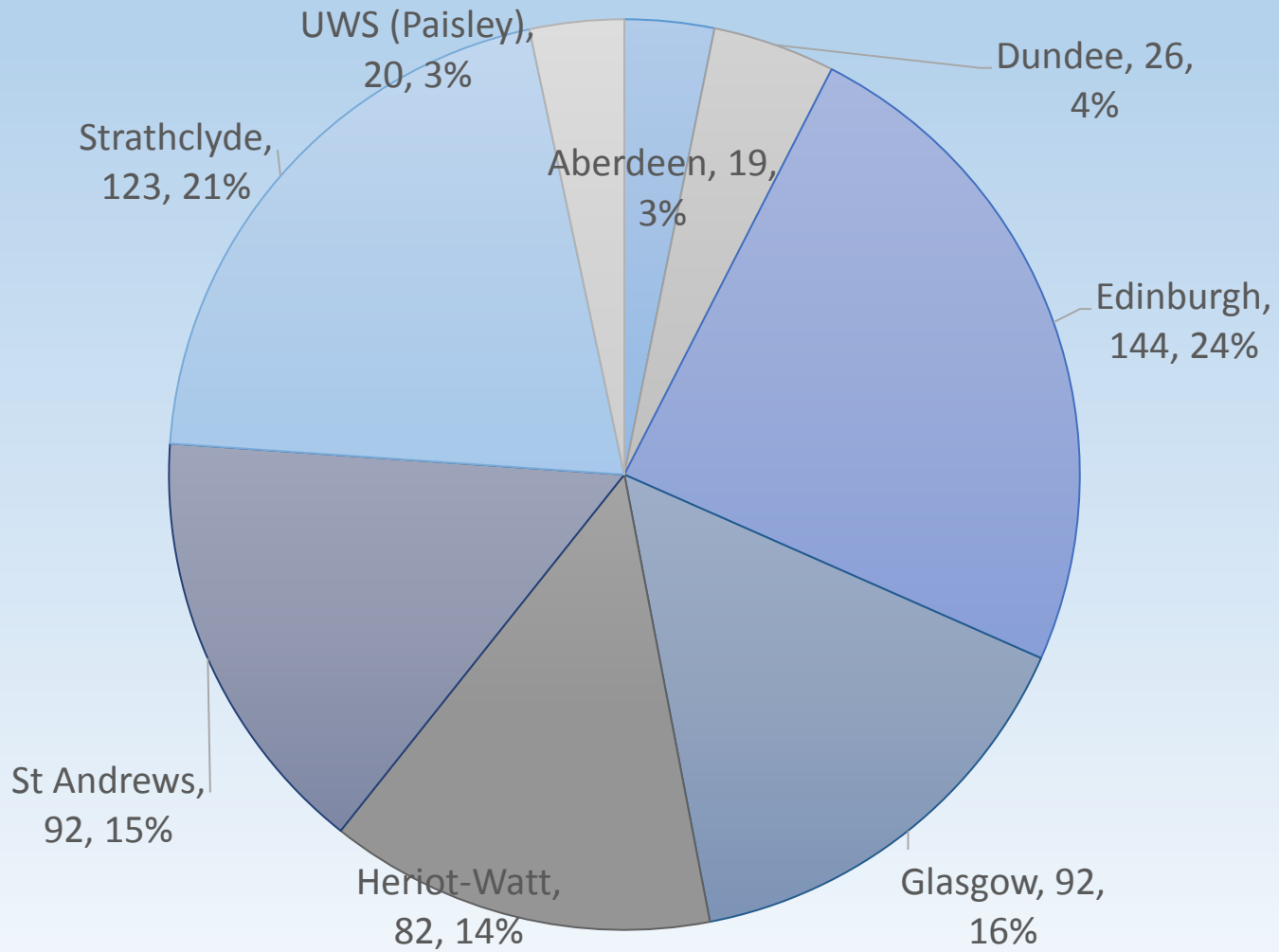
SUPA IAC Meeting – 11th May 2017

Graduate School

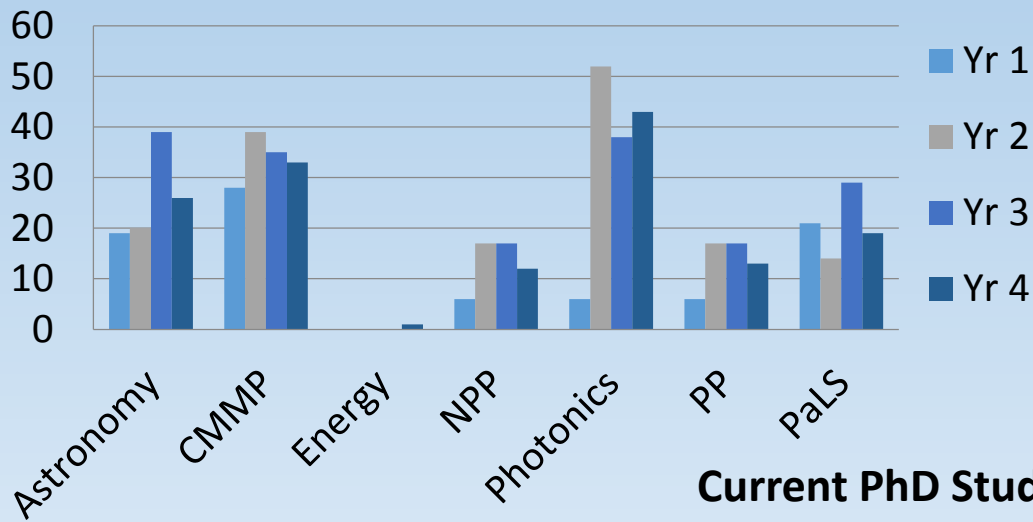
Christian Killow and Anne Pawsey



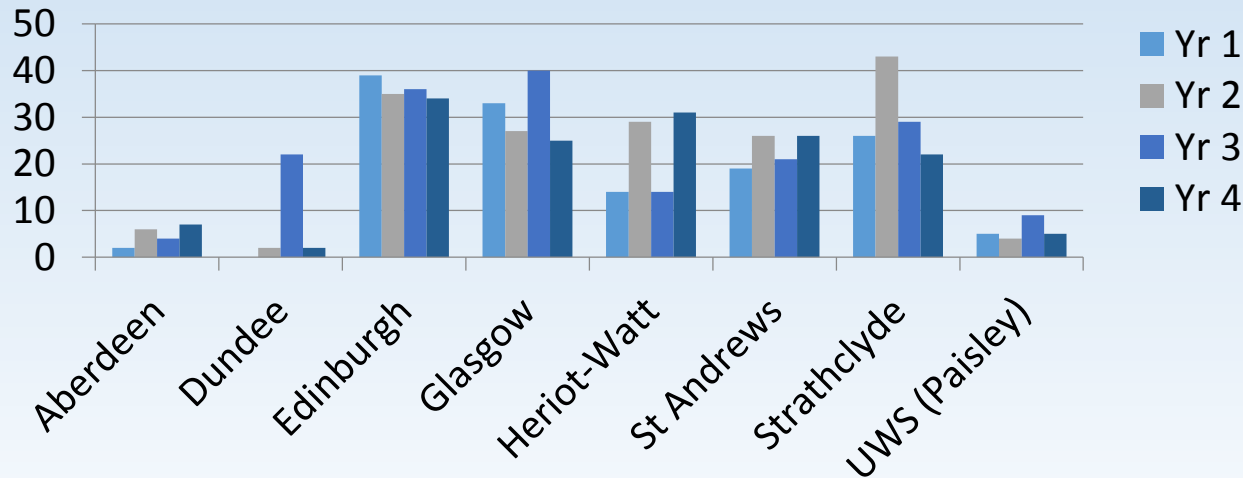
Graduate School numbers



Current PhD Students by Theme



Current PhD Students by University





GS plans at last IAC

- This was the last Graduate School slide at the previous IAC meeting
- All these points have been addressed
 - Further detail to follow
- As well as the day-to-day running of the Graduate School



Planning

- Careers events: the last of these was 29th April 2015
 - Planning started for next one to be held late summer 2016
 - Possible additional joint event with IOP in Scotland Young Members Group
- VC room upgrades
 - Longer term, extension beyond the SUPA VC rooms
- Training provision revisit
 - Possible new content provided by NPL
- Education and Outreach Focus Group
 - Act on the recommendations of the FG and IAC
 - Encourage GS students to be STEM Ambassadors
- Formation of a student representative group
 - This has lots of potential for student-led activity
- SUSSP interactions, including Applied Photonics School

Robin Head	M Squared
Kym Eden	Texensor
Rosalind Allen	University of Edinburgh
Kate Adamson	Marks and Clerk
Anna Deming	IoP Publishing
Réjean Dupuis	Merill Lynch
Christina Stewart	NHS Lothian
Euan McBrearty	Clyde Space



80 students (**SOLD OUT**)

CV clinics provided by IoP, Heriot-Watt, Edinburgh and Glasgow



Public Engagement Network Launch

- 8th September
- Organised with HWEngage
- Panel discussion
- Exhibition
- Training for beginners and experts
- Network is now virtual (a wiki and an email list)



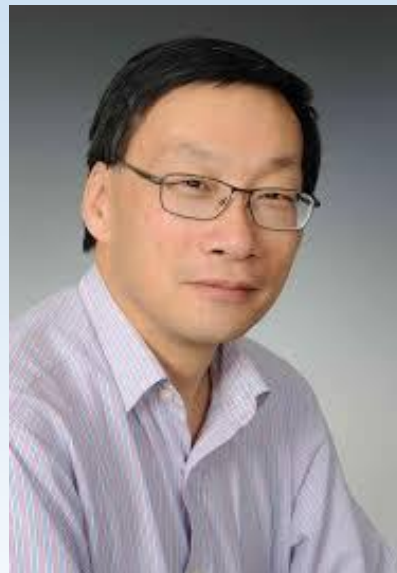
- Launch of the IoP Resilience Toolkit
- Speakers from several career stages and the University counselling service discussed resilience
- Live music from Sirocco Wind



New student welcome event

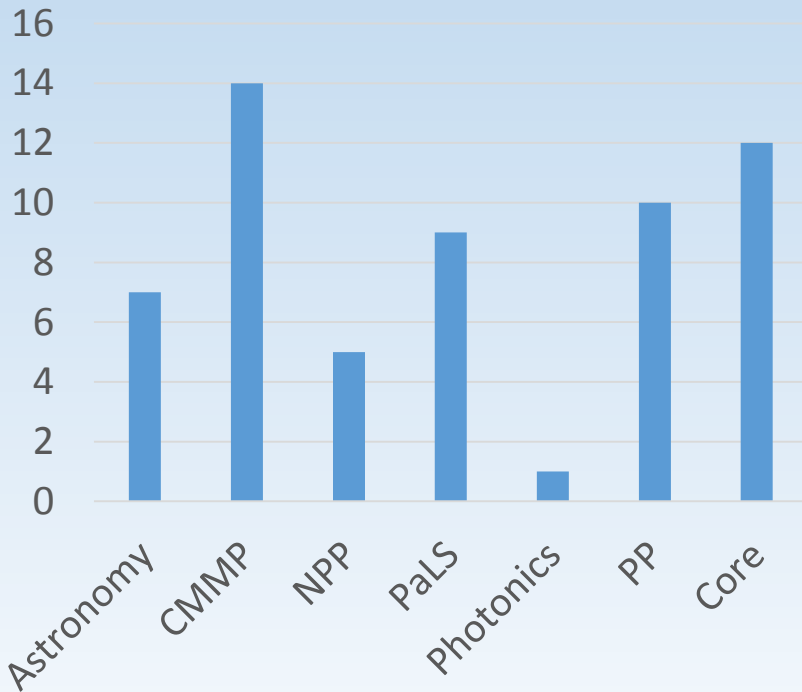
- We are aware that new students are subject to several inductions
- The SUPA 'induction' is now run as a 'welcome event'
- We attempt to introduce the new cohort to SUPA and the Graduate School during an interesting and useful meeting

2016 Speakers:
Professor Sheila Rowan
Professor Wilson Poon
Dr Hermione Cockburn
Katherine Rumble

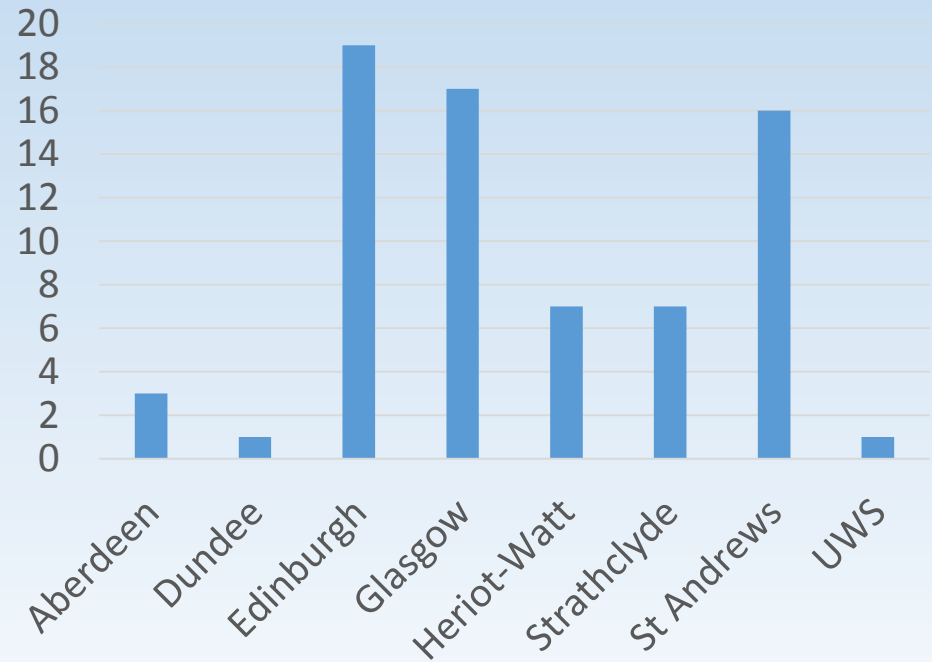


- 50 courses, 800 hours
 - We plan to undertake a review of the Graduate School training provision for the 2017/18 academic year

Courses By Theme



Courses by HEI



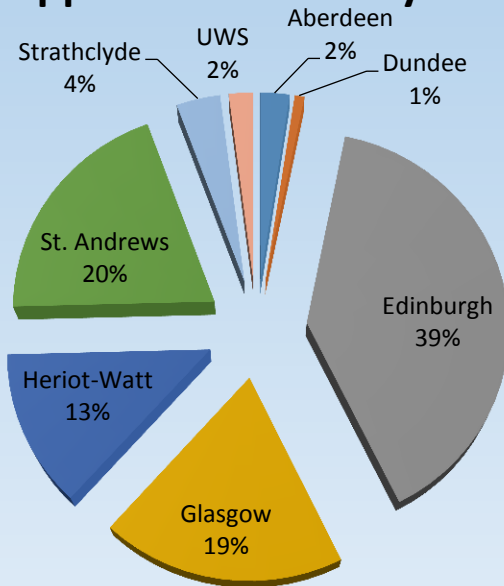


Courses

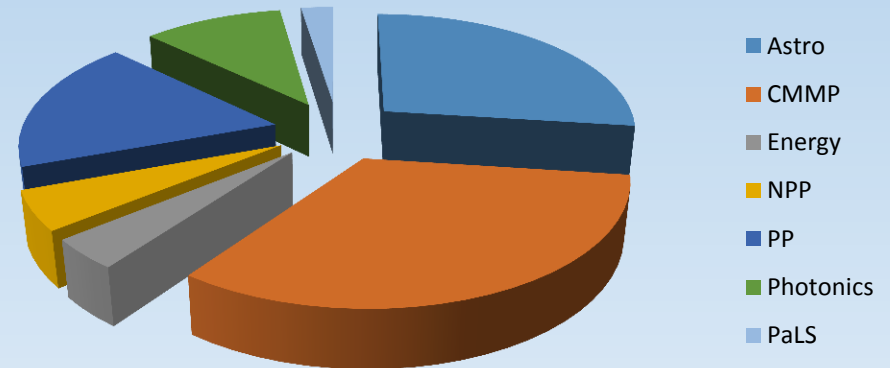
- We plan to undertake a review of the Graduate School training provision for the 2017/18 academic year
- We have asked all lecturers to update and standardise their course descriptions
- The has prompted reflection on course content

Categories	Comments
Course Title	
University	
Lecturer	Contact details
SUPA Credits	
Summary	A summary paragraph introducing the course
Course description	A fuller syllabus
Learning Outcomes	On completion of this course, the student will be able to: 3 to 5 bullet points
Dates	Semester 1 or 2 initially
Assessment	How the course will be assessed

SUPA Prize Studentship applications 2017 by HEI

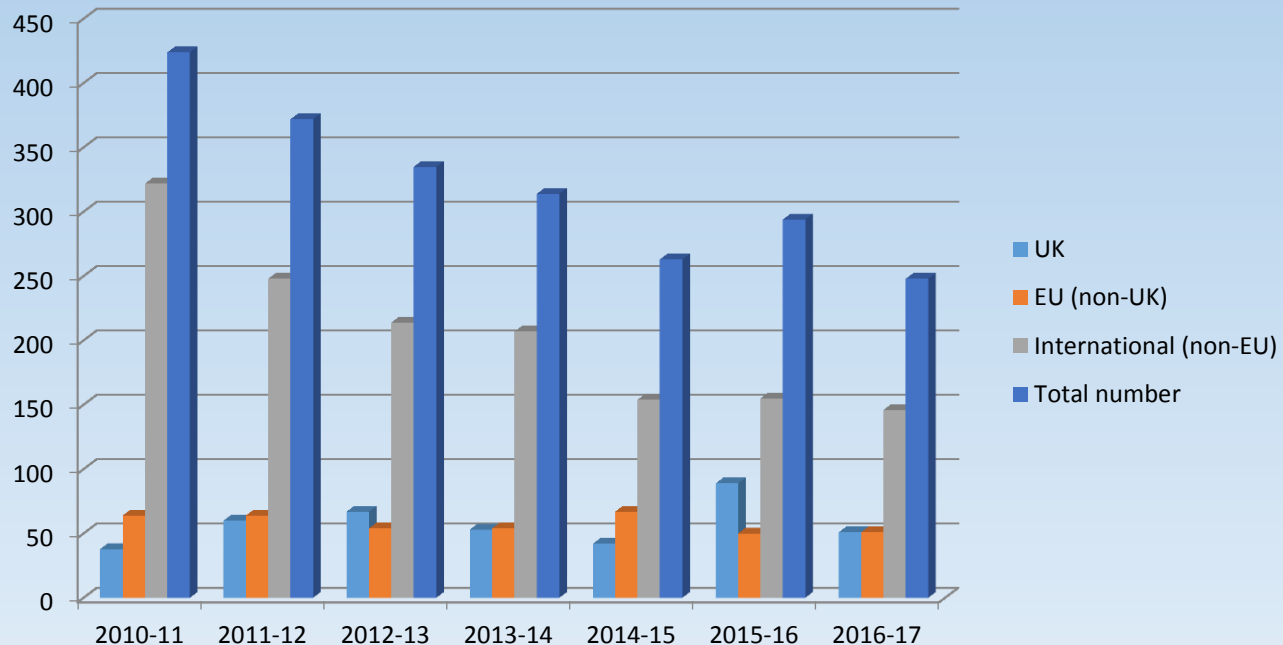


SUPA Prize Studentship applications 2017 by Theme



- Total of **248 applications** this year
- SUPA **co-funded** two studentships
 - Half of a studentship at each of St Andrews and Glasgow
 - Students have accepted these places
- Further Prize Student nominations will be made this summer – to a total of ~16

Total Prize Student applications



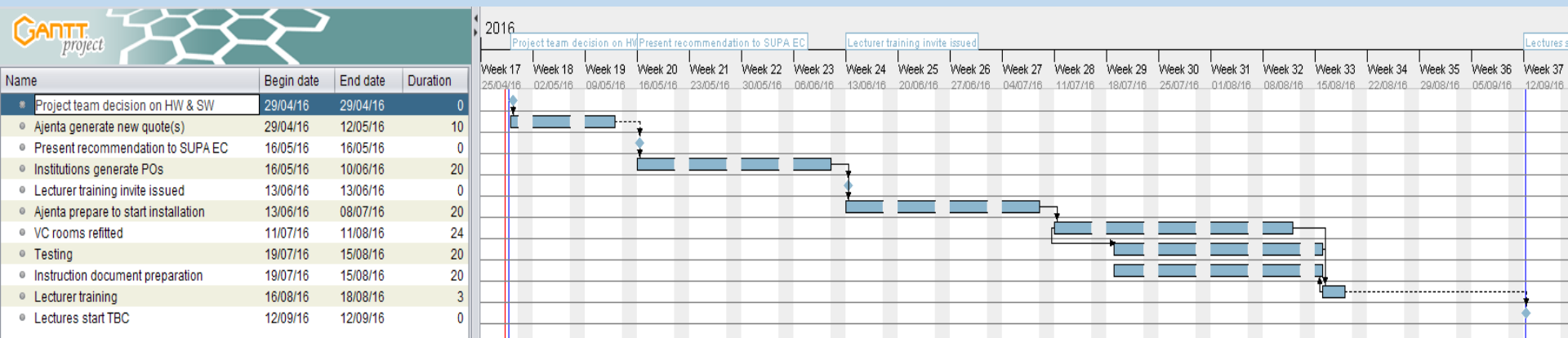
- We are 'quality student' rich
- No obvious Brexit impact on EU applications



VC Upgrade

- Our video-conferencing capability is **key to the successful delivery of Graduate School courses** – as well as having potential in other areas
- The VC infrastructure was replaced over the summer of 2016
 - Completed in time for start of semester
- System now comprises:
 - Vidyo hardware in each VC room
 - HD cameras, displays, visualisers, lectern monitors
 - Fast content channel transfer
 - High quality audio mixing
 - HDMI switches
 - Improved lecturer/student interface with minimal system interaction required
 - Remote attendance
 - Potential for parallel course delivery
- Systems retain
 - (Updated) Vscene software use
 - Auto-recording
 - Pre-booking

- The time window for installation was challenging
- SUPA worked closely with all partner institutions and Ajenta to get the new system running ahead of the 2016/17 session



- This involved an eight-institution purchasing process
- We had to de-bug the system ‘live’
- IT teams at the institutions now report that the current system is easier to maintain than the previous system



VC Upgrade

- Text

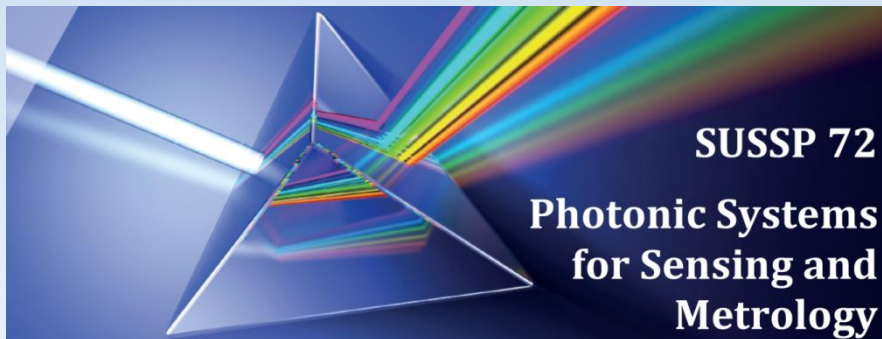


VC: colloquia

- SUPA has teamed with the Intelligent Sensing and Measurement CDT to pilot a colloquia series using the new VC capabilities



- SUPA has formed closer links with the Scottish Universities Summer Schools in Physics (SUSSP)
 - The SUSSP72 lectures are available online through SUPA
 - The SUSSP73 School will be closely integrated with SUPA



S U S S P 73
Gravitational Wave Astronomy
St Andrews, Scotland, 23rd July to 5th August 2017



VC: Future

- Beyond the obvious benefits of hardware and software upgrades, our new capability – and our appreciation of it in a time when VC is becoming the norm – offers **new possibilities**
 - Iain Ross will discuss some of these
- During the course of the year ownership of the software has passed from Jisc – Government owned – to a company
 - Ajenta won the competition, which was open, and Vscene has been **divested** to them
 - This is fortunate as we have a good working relationship with Ajenta
- However, we will now have to **pay for this service** from 1st March 2018



Distinguished visitors and Events

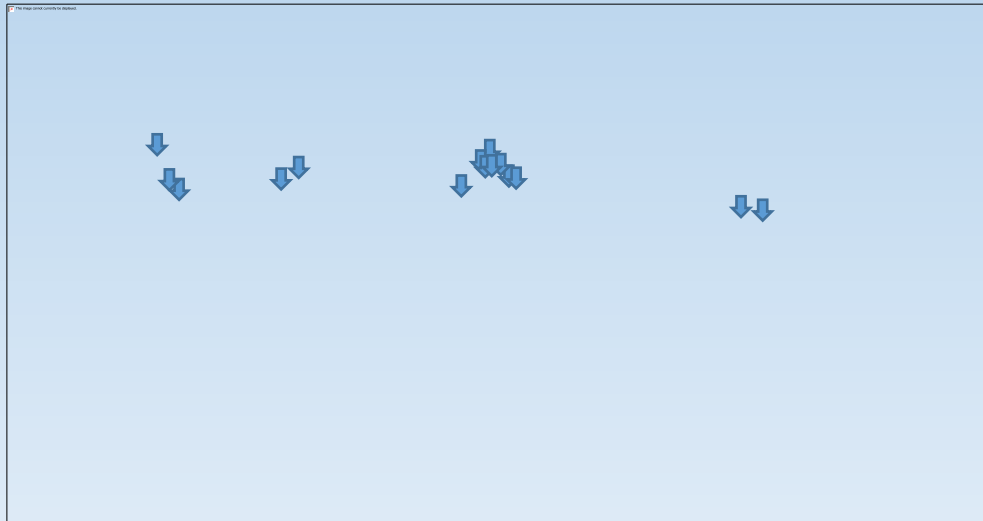
6 Distinguished Visitors

- Professor Norbert Lütkenhaus (Feb 2017) visited Glasgow, Heriot-Watt, St. Andrews, Strathclyde
- Professor William D. Phillips (July 2017), Nobel Laureate, visit to include public talk and visiting Strathclyde and Glasgow
- Professor William G Unruh (Oct 2016), seminar talks at St Andrews
- Dr David Valls-Gabaud (May 2017), series of lectures broadcast across the SUPA network
- Professor Martin J Ward (April 2017), Edinburgh, St Andrews and Glasgow
- Professor Emeritus John L Wood (May 2017), based at UWS, to deliver four lectures to the SUPA graduate school

6 Events

- Amplitudes 2017 summer school (July 2017)
- Biophotonics North (2nd – 5th November 2016)
- FluoroFest (Spring 2017)
- SUPA Workshop on Non-Equilibrium Collective Dynamics (February 2017)
- SUSSP73: Astrophysics with Gravitational Waves (July 2017)
- Young Theorists Forum 9

18 researcher visits



5 placements completed.
All the industrial placement
money has been spent



Broader GS interactions

- External to SUPA meetings attended by the Graduate School:
 - SEPnet Independent Advisory Panel 1st February 2017
 - White Rose Industrial Physics Alliance
 - Condensed Matter Management Group Meetings
 - Presentation on VC rooms given at Digifest
- SUPA meetings organised with input from Graduate School:
 - Student Welcome
 - Annual Gathering
 - Careers Event
 - Public Engagement Network launch
 - Resilient Researcher event



Planning 2017/18

- Careers events
 - Hold a careers event based on the successful model used the last two times
 - These are of particular benefit to graduate students towards the end of their study, and to post docs
 - Preferably jointly with IOP again
- VC room upgrades
 - Continue to extend use beyond the SUPA VC rooms
 - Parallel Graduate School Courses
 - Support colloquia series – *e.g.* ISM CDT
- Training provision revisit
 - Continue with course content provision by Theme
 - Add an industry-related course (see Iain's talk)
 - Look in to adding phys/chem and /or phys/biol courses
- Public Engagement Network
 - Engage more closely with SSERC and Education Scotland
- Utilise student representative group
 - Continue to use the student representative group to gather immediate feedback
- SUSSP interactions
 - Support SUSSPs and provide generated content for Graduate School