RESOURCING/

JOB DESCRIPTION:

Marie Curie Early Stage Researcher

Ref Number:	**STM-074-19-R**
Salary Scale:	Your salary will be £32,500 per annum. You will be paid in arrears, direct to your bank account, on the last working day of each month. As set out in the Marie Curie Early Stage Researcher Agreement, on each anniversary of the Project, the University will calculate the Euro equivalent of the total amount paid to you through the staff payroll using the appropriate exchange rate as given by the European Central Bank at the point of calculation. An additional one-off annual payment will be made to you in accordance with the terms of the Researcher Agreement between yourself and the University of Kent, less employer's national insurance and pension contributions (if you join the pension scheme); you will be liable to pay income tax, national insurance and employee pension contributions (as appropriate) on any monies paid to you. A family allowance depending on personal situation is also paid.
Contract:	**For a fixed term period of 36 months AND Full-time**
School/Department:	**School of Physical Sciences**
Location:	**University of Kent, Canterbury Campus**
Responsible to:	**Principle Investigator: Adrian Podoleanu**
Expected start date:	**Starting between April 2020 and January 2021**

The Role

MARIE Skłodowska-CURIE ACTIONS - Innovative Training Networks (ITN)- H2020-MSCA-ITN-2019 - 860807

The present post is supported by the Marie Curie Innovative Training Network grant, 860807, funded by EU: "NExt generation of Tunable LASers for optical coherence tomography" and awarded to the Applied Optics Group, School of Physical Sciences, University of Kent. The Early Stage Researchers will spend time at the University of Kent and at the other beneficiaries or associated partners.

To perform such research, the researchers will use prior knowledge of optical design, interferometry, fibre optics, scanning, microscopy, tuning lasers, optical coherence tomography (OCT), cameras and their interfacing to computers. Knowledge of Labview is also essential. The RA needs to be well organised and disciplined and collaborate with other members of the AOG. Research will focus on innovative solutions for fast, narrow linewidth, stable phase and wide tuning bandwidth swept sources for optical coherence tomography.

Supervision will be provided in a European setting where specialized and complementary training will be provided at the training sites as well as during network events.

We encourage applications from highly motivated individuals who meet the eligibility criteria, and in particular the mobility rules applying to this position. Researchers must not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the UK for more than 12 months in the 3 years immediately before the start date of the role. Compulsory national service, short stays such as holidays, and time spent as part of a procedure for obtaining refugee status under the Geneva Convention1 are not taken into account.

Candidates must be within the first four years of their research careers, after obtaining the first degree that qualifies them for PhD study. Candidates must not have been awarded a doctoral degree. This is an absolute rule with no exceptions, and candidates must describe how long they have been in the UK over the last 3 years. Candidates will be registered for the degree of PhD at the University of Kent.

Key Accountabilities / Primary Responsibilities

- Devise and assemble innovative optical configurations to achieve the goals and milestones as described in the research programme, submitted to the sponsor;
- Interact with the supervisors at University of Kent and at the seconding partners in the ITN;
- Attend courses and workshops recommended by the supervisors;
- Attend the regular education meetings, such as school talks, group talks and ad-hoc meetings;
- Engage actively in outreach;
- Contact suppliers, request quotes, fill in orders and follow them to ensure a timely progress of the lab activity;
- Write regular reports to the supervisor, compile data acquired in a form to allow rapid transformation of documented research results into high quality research papers and patent applications;
- Manage her/his activity independently while informing regularly the supervisors on results obtained
- Suggest steps to be taken depending on the results obtained and availability of suppliers;
- Maintain a collaborative spirit in sharing equipment and consumables with other researchers in the Applied Optics Group and ensure proper labelling of components once received;

- Volunteer to offer advice to other members of the Applied Optics Group and help the supervisor in the guidance given to Master and PhD students;
- Maintain an up to date log book of the research activity in the lab

Key Duties

- Progress the research theme with diligence, independently, with constant reference to innovation;
- Organise her/his lab environment;
- Communicate the research results during regular meetings of the Applied Optics Group, compile reports;
- Keep abreast with latest developments in the field;
- Contribute to a stimulating environment within the Applied Optics Group

Such other duties, commensurate with the grading of the post that may be assigned by the Head of Department or their nominee.

Health, Safety & Wellbeing Considerations

This role involves undertaking duties which include the Health, Safety and wellbeing issues outlined below. Please be aware of these, when considering your suitability for the role.

- Regular use of Screen Display Equipment
- Working with radiation (lasers)

Internal & External Relationships

Internal: School of Physical Sciences: Professor Adrian Podoleanu, Dr. George Dobre

External: The Early Stage Researcher will interact with supervisors at the different sites involved in the project according to the case for support.

Person Specification

The Person Specification details the necessary skills, qualifications, experience or other attributes needed to carry out the job. Please be aware that your application will be measured against the criteria published below.

Selection panels will be looking for clear evidence and examples in your application, or in your cover letter where applicable, which back-up any assertions you make in relation to each criterion.

Qualifications / Training	Essential	Desirable	Assessed via*
A good honours degree in Physics/Optics or Electrical Engineering (awarded **or** near completion)	✓		A

Experience / Knowledge	Essential	Desirable	Assessed via*
Experience in undertaking research	✓		A

Demonstrable experience of LabView, C++, MatLab	✓		**A**
Prior research activity in laser physics, optical coherence tomography or microscopy	✓		**A**

Skills / Abilities	**Essential**	**Desirable**	**Assessed via***
Expertise in handling optoelectronic measurement instrumentation	✓		**A**
Excellent organisational skills		✓	**A**
Excellent communication skills, both written and verbal		✓	**A**
Good practical skills in controlling analogue and digital cameras		✓	**A**

Additional Attributes	**Essential**	**Desirable**	**Assessed via***
Demonstrable motivation and enthusiasm for research	✓		**A**
Compliance with MSC mobility rule*	✓		**A**

***Criterion to be assessed via:**
A = application form or CV/cover letter
I = interview questions
T = test or presentation at interview

*MSC-ITN mobility rules are as follows: ESRs may not have resided or carried out their main activity (work, studies, etc.) in the country of their host organisation (UK) for more than 12 months in the three years immediately prior to the date of recruitment.