Agreed Policy

A Minimum Requirement for Physics and Astronomy PhD Level Training

Policy

The SEPnet Heads of Department agree that:

1. All PhD research students registered in SEPnet partner Departments will normally be expected to undertake
   i. a minimum of 80 hours advanced physics or related discipline specific training relevant to the broader remit of their PhD and
   ii. a further 40 hours of professional skills training interpreted broadly to include professional, employability and outreach skills training and experience

within the first two years of their PhD registration with the expectation that the majority of this requirement will be undertaken within the first year.

2. This training may be taken from any reasonable provider including GRADnet, Graduate Schools within SEPnet partners, research-collaborator institutions or external bodies such as research councils or Marie Curie partnerships.

3. Residential schools attended for the purpose of physics or discipline specific related training will count 100% towards this requirement normally assumed to be at the rate of 8 hours per full-day.

4. GRADnet Residential Schools (and any other similar schools) attended for the purpose of professional skills training will count 50% towards this requirement normally assumed to be at the rate of 4 hours per full-day.

5. The training will not be formally assessed.

6. Overall compliance with the requirement will be monitored through partner institutions existing progress management systems. Student registration data for activities and students registered with GRADnet can be provided to the departments by GRADnet.