Engineering Doctorate in Sustainability for Engineering and Energy Systems

An examination of the future role of energy policy in the development of new ICT products and services

The University of Surrey hosts a prestigious EPSRC-funded Industrial Doctorate Centre offering an EngD in Sustainability for Engineering and Energy Systems (see www.surrey.ac.uk/engd/sees). The EngD is awarded for doctoral research carried out within a framework of relevant industrial experience and professional development courses. The four-year programme provides at least the intellectual challenge of a PhD and EngD Research Engineers (REs) will normally spend approximately three-quarters of their time based with their sponsor.

A studentship is available with Hewlett-Packard, a leading technology company that operates in more than 170 countries around the world. In the past 5 years, HP has seen a proliferation in the range and scope of environmental energy legislation being developed by the EU and national institutions, relating to Information and Communication Technology (ICT) products and services. The current focus on ICT from an energy efficiency perspective is split into 2 key areas which have been defined by research published by Gartner and WWF in 2007. The research found that while the ICT industry is directly responsible for only two percent of the world economy’s global greenhouse gas emissions, ICT also has an important role to play in helping to reduce the other 98 percent of global emissions, through increased energy efficiency and intelligent solutions. A number of policy programmes have been developed to address this role. At a macro level, a proposal called ICT for Energy Efficiency (ICT4EE) aims to link digital technology more closely to EU climate and energy policy and economic development. At a micro level, HP is currently working on topics such as the directive Eco-design of Energy-using Products (EuP).

The main purpose of this research project is to analyse these approaches for their environmental efficacy and help HP to navigate through this jungle of current and prospective legislative development, by providing clear insight on the future role of energy/climate change policy and how it relates to IT product development.

Funding details
The Research Engineer recruited will be based with Hewlett-Packard’s Environmental Compliance team in Bracknell, Berkshire.

We are looking for a logical, self motivated individual with good interpersonal and analytical skills and attention to detail. Ideally they will have experience of project management and the ability to work in a remote team/multi-destinations. The suitable candidate will be an environmental engineer / scientist with a keen interest and good level of understanding of environmental issues, with a good bachelor’s degree (at least a 2.1) and preferably a relevant MSc.

The candidate should have the ability:
• to engage with technological/technical detail;
• to identify and evaluate other influencing factors surrounding a problem, e.g. from economic, political, and social structures;
• to adjust this to a strategic level of thinking (e.g. planning scenarios – temporally and/or spatially).

The current stipends for EngD studentships are £19,500 per annum or above (normally tax-free). To be eligible for funding, applicants must demonstrate a relevant connection with the UK (see www.epsrc.ac.uk/PostgraduateTraining/StudentEligibility.htm).

Closing date: 9am, 16th August 2010. Interviews will take place on 1st September at Hewlett-Packard in Bracknell.

For further project details and an application pack, please contact:

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