



Hydro Nation Scholars  
Programme

## HYDRO NATION SCHOLARS PROGRAMME SUPERVISOR GUIDANCE

### THE HYDRO NATION SCHOLARS PROGRAMME

The Scottish Government has established the Hydro Nation Scholars Programme to support its vision of Scotland as the world's first 'Hydro Nation'. Scotland the Hydro Nation recognises the importance and value of water within Scotland's national and international identity. The country manages its water environment to the best advantage, employing its knowledge and expertise effectively at home and internationally in ways which contribute to a flourishing low-carbon economy.

The Hydro Nation Scholars Programme is a partnership between academia, industry and policy, funded by the Scottish Government through scholarships for postgraduate research aligned to the strategic priorities of Scotland's Hydro Nation Strategy.

The programme aims to develop outstanding scholars to become effective in addressing how best to ensure global water security into the future. Scholars will play a key role in supporting the Hydro Nation strategy by:

- developing understanding of how and where best to develop the value of Scotland's water resources;
- focusing on enhancing Scottish capacity in areas of existing research excellence;
- providing new research and insights where there are gaps related to water resources in Scotland;
- developing research and insights of significance to global water issues; and
- contributing to the high-level policy debate on domestic and global water issues.

High quality PhD training is provided through the graduate school; a community of scholars, academics, policy makers and implementation partners, including the water industry. Scholars benefit from tailored opportunities (and can include periods of research at a water-related institution) provided by the Scottish Government, the Scottish Environment Protection Agency (SEPA), Scottish Water, the Water Industry Commission for Scotland (WICS) to enhance their development.

The Hydro Nation Scholars Programme is managed on behalf of Scottish Government by CREW (Scotland's Centre of Expertise for Waters).

## SUPERVISORY TEAM RESPONSIBILITIES

Each postgraduate scholar normally has a minimum of two supervisors, which can include Scottish Main Research Providers <http://www.gov.scot/Topics/Research/About/EBAR/research-providers> and UK research institutions and others along with an experienced supervisor from the host Scottish degree-awarding University. The supervisors have responsibility to mutually agree the arrangements for the supervision of the postgraduate scholar and to ensure he/she is aware of the academic expectations set out by each University and their examination procedures leading to the award of a PhD.

Supervisors and scholars also have a Hydro Nation Advisor from Scottish Government, SEPA, Scottish Water or WICS whose responsibility it is to link to relevant policy makers, implementers and practitioners. Further, this gives students invaluable experience of policy development and implementation.

### Responsibilities of Primary Supervisors

- must be aware of, and show commitment to, the objectives of the HNSP programme in full, including promoting the ambitions of the Hydro Nation Strategy throughout the lifetime of the study and liaising with their nominated Hydro Nation Advisor
- must ensure scholars participate in the wider programme including training days, peer-to-peer meetings, secondments and other Hydro Nation activities as and when requested by the Hydro Nation programme
- ensuring their scholar makes timely submission of all progress reports including ensuring all outputs are recorded into the Hydro Nation Scholars Knowledge exchange database
- provide copies of host university scholar thesis monitoring reports to the secretariat and an additional annual summary of progress and delivery against Hydro Nation objectives
- alerting the Hydro Nation Scholars programme secretariat to any performance or personal issues that could impact on the reputation of the programme
  
- making clear that the course of study for the PhD includes training in research methods, and that the PhD is awarded by the university only for original work
- communicating the standard expected and relevant regulations governing research (health & safety, research ethics etc.)
- providing regular access and meetings with their scholar and maintaining adequate written or electronic records of work and meetings to include all training courses and seminars attended by their scholar
- providing support in preparation of the thesis and guidance on the expectations of the *Viva Voce* examination

### Responsibilities of Secondary Supervisors

Secondary supervisors provide additional experience/expertise and are expected to take an active interest in the scholar's progress. The role of the secondary supervisor may, in addition, include any responsibilities of the main supervisor. Where this is the case, this must be clearly documented (e.g. as an action point from a project meeting). Where the main supervisor becomes unavailable for whatever reason the secondary supervisor is expected to act in his/her place.

## SCHOLARS RESPONSIBILITIES

- promoting the ambitions of the Hydro Nation strategy
  - acting as ambassadors for HNSP and to act accordingly at all times
  - attend all training and bespoke events where possible when requested by the Hydro Nation programme
  - recording all research and knowledge exchange outputs with the Hydro Nation secretariat in a timely manner
  - engage proactively with their Hydro Nation Advisor throughout the lifetime of the project
  - ensuring the timely submission of all progress reports as demanded by their host University and Hydro Nation Scholar Programme
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- following the Code of Practice for Supervised Postgraduate Research (or equivalent) provided by their registered University
  - accepting ultimate responsibility for their behaviour, professional conduct, research activity, and fulfilment of their obligations as a higher degree candidate as registered with the appropriate University
  - ensuring that they are familiar with all regulations, policies that are relevant to research scholars (e.g. health and safety, intellectual property)
  - taking the initiative to request appropriate technical and intellectual training, and to raise any queries, problems or difficulties, scientific or pastoral, with their supervisors, and Health and Safety Officer as considered appropriate.
  - seeking regular interaction and meetings with their supervisors to discuss their research and to receive appropriate instruction, guidance, and mentoring
  - maintaining adequate written records in the appropriate laboratory notebooks of all work and meetings with their supervisors
  - ensuring the timely submission of all progress reports as demanded by their host University
  - developing and increasing responsibility for the direction and technical and intellectual innovation in their research through consultation, discussion and agreement with their supervisors
  - taking ultimate responsibility, after consultation with their supervisors, for the preparation and submission of their thesis to the appropriate University.