



University of
Central Lancashire
UCLan

Challenges in Developing a Doctoral Training Centre for Industry Collaboration

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Where opportunity creates success

About the Doctoral Training Centre



- Established 2022 to provide high quality doctoral training in support of research aligning to regional, national and global development agendas.
- PhD students are across a range of subject disciplines and research areas
 - Not fixed to one topic or discipline.
- All studentships have an industrial partner to provide the context for the research.
- We have had a competitive internal process for selecting projects to be funded.

Training for Careers in Industry and Academia

- Deliver a new cohort-based doctoral education programme:
 - Bespoke to the needs of the DTC students
 - Developing a PGR environment in line with professional research graduate career destinations.
- Foster doctoral and academic collaboration across academic and institutional boundaries.
- **Unique industry collaboration model!**

Our PhD Students



- We have 42 students in the DTC working with various industry collaborators including:
 - British Geological Survey
 - Delta Fire Engineering
 - EDF Energy
 - PlatoScience Aps
 - Paladin National Stalking Service
 - Rinicare Ltd
 - St Catherines Hospice
- Multinational organisations to SME, NHS etc.

Example Projects

- Digital Technology in Palliative Care: Co-Designing a Framework for Creating Future Digital Technology in Palliative Care.
- Designing Innovative Methods of Public Engagement for Climate Change Transition Using National Public Engagement on Nuclear Fusion as a Case Study
- Building back stronger: Creating optimised manual handling practice for patient positioning to reduce the burden on patient and practitioner
- Microbial biofilm colonization, biodeterioration, decontamination and novel standards of Wearable Medical Devices (WMDs)

Number of studentships per School

School	No of students
School of Engineering and Computing	17
School of Psychology and Humanities	9
School of Pharmacy and Biomedical Sciences	8
School of Health, Social Work and Sport	5
School of Medicine and Dentistry	2
School of Law and Policing	1
School of Nursing and Midwifery	1

Challenges in Training



- Develop a training programme that compliments the university provision
- Develop added value to the students
- Focused on industry skills, transferable skills
 - Agile Project Management
 - Financial Project Management
 - Visual Communication
 - Careers

Business Model

- Research proposals are created with academic staff at UCLan, resulting in original and innovative outcomes that will benefit the organisation.
- Full-time PhD student dedicated to the project for 3 years.
- Companies provide **Cash or In-Kind Contributions** to the PhD.
- Our students may be expected to spend a proportion of their studies within your organisation on **placement**.



Business Involvement

- Bespoke to the organisational needs:
 - Could be part of the supervisor on team (staff development).
 - We would expect monthly meetings to update on progress of the research
 - Be part of key decision making over the course of the 3 years
 - They might assist with data collection or analysis of data through facilities

Summary

- Supporting REF and KEF developments
 - Outputs and Impact
- Reflecting on existing processes and refining these
 - E.g. Terms and conditions and EDI Strategy
- <https://www.uclan.ac.uk/centres/doctoral-training-centre>

Questions...