



The UKRI Centre for Doctoral Training in Offshore Wind Energy Sustainability and Resilience

Partnership opportunities

**Generating innovative solutions to address OW sector challenges.
Nurturing the next generation of talent for a diverse and vibrant OW workforce.**



Led by



In partnership with





The global centre of the offshore wind industry



Centered on the Humber, home to the world’s largest offshore windfarms, the Aura Centre for Doctoral Training (CDT) is the sector-leading PhD provider.

Phase I of the Aura CDT has a proven track record:

- 68 exceptional students, tackling current sector challenges, co-funded by the UK government and industry.
- A working partnership of over 25 companies connected by four research intensive universities
- Unique cross-disciplinary training, CPD and mentoring
- Sector-leading support and delivery on diversity, equity, inclusion and wellbeing.

“demonstrating the innovative approach of the Aura Centre in developing skills and talent for the offshore wind sector.”

Professor Dame Ottoline Leyser, Chief Executive, UK Research and Innovation

We need your involvement to secure and shape Phase II of the Aura CDT recruiting students from 2024 to 2029

Become a Centre Partner

Platinum Members

A competitive advantage to OW challenges

Work in partnership towards future PhD scholarships

Specialist training and research in the offshore wind sector

Bespoke partnerships through four-year PhD scholarships:

- Research, development and innovation to provide solutions to specific partner challenges
- Co-created projects, integrating partners within sector
- Research based out of university or partner settings

Additional Benefits:

- Access to recruit the best talent with holistic skills and expertise in offshore wind
- Engagement with world-leading experts and access to state-of-the-art facilities

Advisory board membership, shaping the future leaders of the offshore wind sector

Cost: £50,000 per project

OW Challenges



Interested in Aura CDT training and research priorities?

Contact auracdt@hull.ac.uk for more information on how you can take part.

Become a Centre Partner

Gold and Silver Members

Leading academic and industry collaboration

All partner benefits:

- Access our world leading cluster of experts and work together on offshore wind energy challenges
- Network with wider partners across the Aura CDT
- Get involved with our annual Aura offshore wind conference, a showcase of academic and industry RDI

Gold Members:

- Provide access to equipment or facilities
- Provide and host student placements or internships
- Offer on-site visits or CPD Training
- Build a relationship with new talent
- Associate Advisory Board membership supporting development of future leaders in the offshore wind sector

Silver Members

- Support research through sharing expertise, resources or data
- Develop and support small research projects during training phase
- Give in-person or virtual guest lectures
- Champion the CDT partnerships in sector

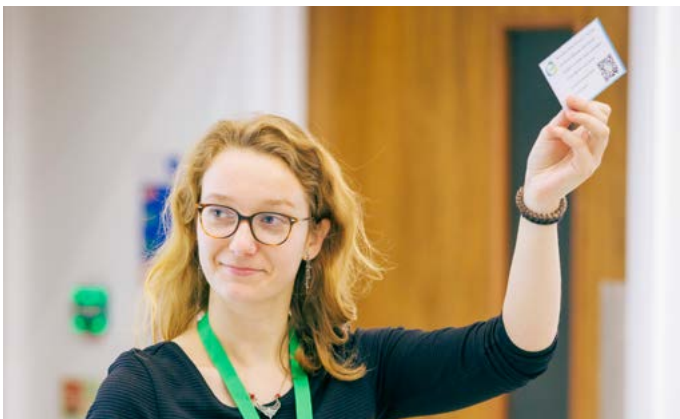
Get in touch to begin your partnership with the Aura CDT.
auracdt@hull.ac.uk

Developing solutions to evolving challenges

The rapid expansion of OW energy is generating new challenges, and the transdisciplinary Aura CDT is uniquely placed to develop the solutions.

To meet sector targets, the industry is moving beyond existing development zones into more challenging, less well-understood environments. And sustainability is a key challenge, in terms of environmental impact, resource requirements and workforce; as well as improved integration into wider energy systems.

The Aura CDT recruits exceptional researchers from diverse backgrounds; under the guidance of academic and industry mentors, they are uniquely placed to meet these intersecting industry challenges.



“The passion, the enthusiasm, the absolute urgency for our climate emergency ... here we’ve got students engaging in innovation that is going to help make our transition towards a net zero Britain happen.”

Jürgen Maier, Chair of the Digital Catapult



A decade identifying training and research challenges and solutions with the sector

The CDT provides a 4-year taught and research programme:

Yr Training

1. 6 month team-based, OW taught programme at Hull
2. Intensive skills workshops across partner Universities
3. CPD training and mentoring
4. CPD training and mentoring

Research

- PhD research within and across industry
- Co-created and co-evolved themes

“They’re at the forefront of what we are thinking at this level.. absolutely spot on to the challenges that we face at the moment”

Will Apps, Head of Marine Development, The Crown Estate

Push the frontiers of offshore wind technology

Understanding the engineering and environmental challenges around OW expansion into new, more challenging environments further from shore in deeper water.

Build and support a sustainable workforce

A thriving industry must be diverse, providing a safe, fulfilling and equitable environment for all staff; an understanding of human factors and humans-technology interaction is key.

Develop a resilient net-zero energy system

The UK transition to net-zero by 2050 requires a resilient and integrated energy system. OW will form the backbone of the future energy system but must adapt to enable increased integration.

Accelerate consent and support environmental sustainability

Reduction of the typical consent process requires integrated use of diverse models and data sources to advance understanding of OW environments.

Achieve a sustainable wind farm lifecycle

Increasing sustainability and efficiency while promoting rapid innovation is critical for keeping the UK at the forefront of the industry.

***Interested in Aura CDT training and research priorities?
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Shaping a resilient future through impactful research

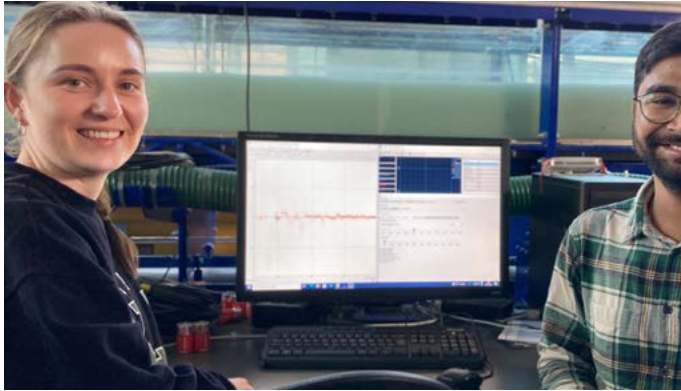
“What struck me is the multidisciplinary nature of the research projects and how all of those disciplines work together to solve a problem”

David Bould, Lead R&D Specialist, Ørsted

Maisy Bradbury:

Physical and numerical tests of the efficiency of scour mitigation methods to reduce turbine foundation costs.

Funded by HR Wallingford



Oliver Morgan-Clague:

Developing new numerical models to optimise resin injection and reduce cost of the blade manufacture process.

Funded by Siemens Gamesa Renewable Energy

Siti Khadijah Hamzah:

Modelling and optimising DC transmission infrastructure for the integration of offshore wind energy.

Funded by UKRI



Lisa Somerville:

Virtual reality based study of solutions to sea-sickness, improving the efficiency of the offshore workforce.

Funded by Offshore Renewable Energy Catapult



Find out more about our current Aura CDT research by visiting our website.



Aura Centre for Doctoral Training: *Join the next generation partnership for offshore wind*



“The Aura CDT is a really powerful quartet of universities.. There’s this real buzz of industrial universities coming through with some great thinking and I think it’s a very powerful combination”

Jane Cooper, Renewable UK

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***Contact us to find out how your organisation
could benefit from partnership with the Aura CDT***



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