



Project number	<b>MSCA-ITN-2014-ETN 641272</b>
Project title	<b>High-intensity coherent nonlinear optics (HICONO)</b>
Title	<b>Fellow's report on activities : Lab tours for the general public during open days at IC (December 2015 and February 2016, IC London)</b>
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I participated as a laboratory guide during open days in the physics department (embedded in the “Postgraduate Opportunities Fair” and the “QOLS Group Open Day” (QOLS = Quantum Optics and Laser Science)), which aims at the general public and potential new students in physics. I guided two groups of about 10 people each through several laboratories at the Imperial College Physics department in December 2015 and February 2016.

Goal: To raise the awareness for science in the general public and to motivate potential new students to start a research career in the field of high intensity coherent nonlinear optics.

Impact: I attempted to reach as many people as possible from the general public and tried to show them the work, we are doing in science, and the laboratories and experiments we are working on. This enabled the participants to get a feeling about the current state of the art in our field of research and supported the awareness of our research in a broader audience.

Methodology: The guided tours started in our laboratory, where I have tried to explain my research in an easily understandable way and discussed the research objectives of my field of research as vivid as possible, directly in at the experiment. The about 20-minute overview covered also the general setup of our laser system.

Subsequently, the participants were guided through the other laser laboratories of the QOLS (Quantum Optics and Laser Science) group, all located in the basement of the Imperial College physics department, the Blackett laboratory. Here, the participants got an introduction of various experiments, currently conducted in these promises, of their

supervisors. During this part of the tour my task was to guide the participants to the different sites and answer general questions about science, like the daily work of a scientist or the impact of our science to the outer world.

The discussions helped me to understand what kind of questions are in general interesting for a public audience and how to explain my research without technical language, to make it more accessible for everybody.

Each tour took about two hours of time and concluded with a final drinks reception, to allow further discussions. My general impression was that the participants showed a high interest in understanding the daily work of a researcher in a laser laboratory. The questions they asked also gave me the assurance, that the key points of our research are of special interest for the public and that every scientific output we produce can have an impact.

Imperial College London

## Physics Department Postgraduate Opportunities Fair

Wednesday 9th December 2015

**3.00pm – 3.00pm:** Research Group and Master courses information fair: Common Room – Level 8, Blackett Laboratory

**3.30pm – 4.15pm:** Talks by the theoretical and observational research groups (Lecture Theatre 2)

**4.15pm – 4.45pm:** Introduction to the department by the Head of Department (Lecture Theatre 2)

**4.45 pm – 6.00pm:** Tour of the experimental research groups (Meet in common room level 8).

An opportunity to find out about postgraduate research degrees (MPhil / PhD) and postgraduate courses (MSc, MRes and PhD) in Physics at Imperial College. This event is a part of the Imperial College Postgraduate Open Day to provide information on all taught masters and research opportunities at Imperial College London.

For further information about Imperial College and the Open Day see: [www.imperial.ac.uk](http://www.imperial.ac.uk)

The Department's research covers all the major areas of physics, including astrophysics, theoretical and experimental particle physics, optics, solid state physics and plasma physics. PhD opportunities are available in all these areas.

The Department offers masters courses in theoretical physics, optics and photonics and a general physics MSc with streams in shock physics and nanophotonics and a two academic year degree with an extended research project.

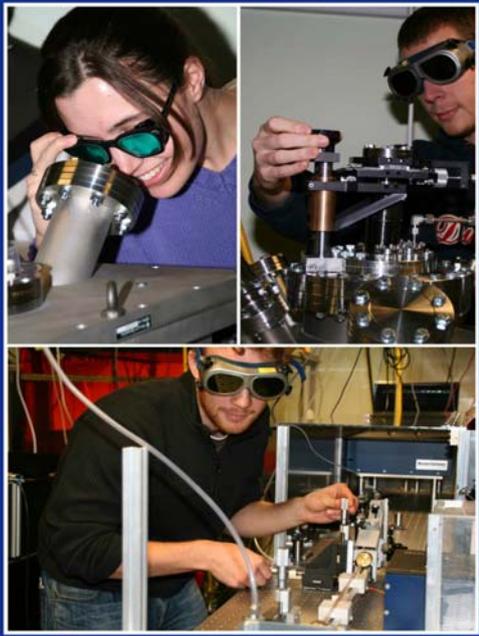
The Centres of Doctoral Training offer Masters and (Masters and PhD) training in Controlled Quantum Dynamics, Plastic Electronics and Theory and Simulation of Materials.




For further information on the Fair or Postgraduate Opportunities in Physics, contact:  
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 Tel: 020 7594 7512, Email: [lsanchez@imperial.ac.uk](mailto:lsanchez@imperial.ac.uk)

Information is also available at [www.imperial.ac.uk/physics](http://www.imperial.ac.uk/physics)

## Quantum Optics and Laser Science Group Open Day for Prospective PhD Students



Wednesday 3rd February 2016  
 Room 630 The Blackett Laboratory  
 From 2.00 pm

Advertising flyers of the open day in 2015 (left, with agenda) and 2016 (right, title page only).