Graduate from research institutes

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Students of Raman Research Institute discuss a project (Photo: Nagaraja Gadekal)

Raman Research Institute

Nobel Laureate CV Raman was one of the most celebrated physicists of India. In 1948, he established Raman Research Institute (RRI), Bangalore, to organise research and study different disciplines under science/physics. Now it is a full-fledged research centre for astronomy and astrophysics, light and matter physics, soft condensed matter and theoretical physics, chemistry, signal processing, imaging and instrumentation. Most of the research is funded by the Indian government's department of science and technology.

DEGREES OFFERED: RRI offers a PhD that comes with an intensive training in the first year. On successful completion, students will be registered for a PhD degree with Jawaharlal Nehru University, New Delhi. The institute also offers postdoctoral fellowships. These appointments will initially be for two years, and then extended for one more year after review, says Prof Ravi Subrahmanyan, director, RRI. Selected candidates will be paid a fellowship of Rs 22-24,000, depending on their experience.

The Pancharatnam Fellowships are available for candidates who have done outstanding, original and independent research. The Fellowship appointments are for three years and candidates will be paid a stipend of Rs 40-45,000, depending on their experience and level of research. RRI also offers a Visiting Students Programme and Summer Student Programme, which would expose undergraduate and postgraduate students to a research environment.

RRI is also a participant of Joint Astronomy Programme (JAP) with Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, and Physics in Biology Programme with National Centre for Biological Sciences, Bangalore. JAP offers training for postgraduate astrophysics students. "Students are also encouraged to participate in national and international conferences to gain maximum exposure," says Prof Subrahmanyan.

SCHOLARSHIPS: PhD students will be paid a scholarship of Rs 16,000 per month for two years and Rs 18,000 for the next three years, subject to satisfactory progress. In addition, they are paid a book grant of Rs 5,000 per annum for four years.

RESEARCH: The institute has received three US patents and four more are under process. Similar number of patents are also in the pipeline with the Indian Patents Office. A major ongoing programme is Murchison Wide-Field Array (MWA). MWA is located at CSIRO's Murchison Radio-astronomy Observatory in Western Australia. The instrument design and the radio-quiet location permit a number of areas of astronomical observation.

DETAILS: Visit www.rri.res.in.

