



Energy Academy Europe/University of Groningen PhD Program

Energy Academy Europe (EAE) is a public-private partnership initiated by University of Groningen (UG), Hanze University of Applied Science, Gasterra and Energy Valley in 2011. The EAE has the ambition to become an international center of excellence in energy education, research and innovation. The EAE wishes to consolidate the leadership of the Netherlands in energy expertise and to contribute to the transition to a sustainable, reliable and commercially viable energy economy. Therefore, the EAE has launched an interdisciplinary PhD program on energy and plans to host 30-40 international PhD candidates in the new EAE building, which is the most sustainable education building in the Netherlands.

The ambitious goal of this program is to develop an innovative and interdisciplinary PhD program which addresses the complex challenges in energy transition, on the basis of:

- Excellence in a broad range of disciplines, including physics, chemistry, ecology, biology, engineering and technologies, environment science, social science, law, economics etc.
- Vast cooperation with relevant knowledge centers in the Netherlands, the EU and with leading centers around the world.
- Continuous dialogue with international organizations, industrial partners and governments.
- A strong interdisciplinary training environment, providing platforms for collaboration, fostering exchange of concepts and methods.

According to the Dutch education system one PhD project will last 4 years when the candidate plans to obtain a degree from the Netherlands. In this program the PhD degree will be awarded by University of Groningen (UG). The UG is a top 100 university in the world and ranks 75th in the Academic Ranking of World Universities published by Shanghai Jiao Tong University in 2015.

The EAE focuses on, but not limited to, the following research areas:

- (1) Energy system integration and transitions**
- (2) Implementation & governance of energy transitions**
- (3) Renewables**
- (4) Energy efficiency**
- (5) CO₂ reduction and sustainable use of fossil fuels**
- (6) Smart grids and sustainable built environment and cities**

For each research area, several individual research projects can be developed on the basis of candidates' own motivations.

Eligible candidates must:

- receive CSC scholarships
- have MSc degrees before starting their PhD projects
- have strong background of knowledge in chosen projects
- be able to communicate fluently in English (oral and verbal)
- be interested in interdisciplinary researches on energy

All benefits of CSC PhD candidates at the UG include:

- ✓ Tuition waiver
- ✓ Living allowances, 400 euros per month
- ✓ Provide research funding
- ✓ Supervision of each PhD student via a supervisory board composed by professors from different faculties, universities or research institutions and companies when applicable
- ✓ Participation in regular interdisciplinary workshops/seminars on energy topics
- ✓ Participation in energy winter/summer schools
- ✓ Training courses in specialized methods
- ✓ Excursion to and dialogue with industrial partners or government organizations
- ✓ Participation in international conferences



- ✓ Active participation in initiating or organizing a meeting in Groningen
- ✓ Participation in soft skill courses (presentation, scientific writing etc.)

Interested candidates may inquire information of PhD positions through Wanli Zheng (zheng.wanli@energyacademy.org). When applying for a PhD position, please provide the following documents:

- an updated CV
- research motivations
- academic record
- proof of English proficiency (e.g. published English articles/papers, TOEFL, IELTS. For an interview it's not necessary to provide a certificate of English test, but it's a must to get CSC scholarships.)