

**Supervisor 1:** Professor Andrew Burke  
**Supervisor 2:** Dr Stephanie Hussels

**Project title:** Entrepreneurial Performance across the Business Cycle

### **Project description:**

Applications are invited for this research project, offered by the Bettany Centre for Entrepreneurial Performance & Economics, a world-leading centre in this important research area.

This research project focuses on the performance of new ventures launched in and evolving across boom and slump periods. These environmental factors both affect the opportunities available to new ventures as well as their ability to exploit them; particularly in relation to the ability of start-ups to raise finance. The study will look at various performance measures including business survival and growth, as well as financial performance indicators. We envisage that the findings of the study will have significant theoretical and practical implications.

Candidates should first visit the website which provides full details of the PhD programme, our admission requirements, fees and funding, frequently asked questions and the application and selection process. They should then, in the first instance, submit a CV and a research proposal (approximately 4 pages or 1000-1500 words). This should set out:

- the management issue or problem to be addressed
- the question(s) to be addressed
- a critical evaluation of available knowledge
- the data to be collected, and how it will be analysed
- who will benefit from the research
- your previous experience of research
- what are your career aspirations

An enquiry cannot be considered without this proposal. Papers should be emailed to [Heather.Fisher@cranfield.ac.uk](mailto:Heather.Fisher@cranfield.ac.uk)

Selected candidates will be invited to submit a formal application form which may be downloaded from the Cranfield School of Management website. Shortlisted applicants will be invited to an assessment day at Cranfield. Special arrangements may be made for international candidates.

Full details of the programme structure, admission requirements, fees and funding and the selection process, are available on our Website: <http://www.som.cranfield.ac.uk/som/doctorates/phd/index.asp>

### **Funding notes**

Although candidates with outstanding academic records may be considered for a School bursary, funding is not guaranteed. Bursaries are awarded on a competitive basis, at the end of the selection process. UK, EU and international candidates are eligible to apply, and may do so by enclosing a letter of application with their application form.

Applications should have a good first degree and ideally a specialist masters in a relevant discipline. We are seeking an individual with a background in economics, econometrics and/or the economics of strategy.