

# UCL Astrophysics PhD Admissions Report



- The current web pages with detailed information for applicants are [www.ucl.ac.uk/star/phd](http://www.ucl.ac.uk/star/phd)

- Panel members are currently:

*Nick Achilleos (Chair)*

*Ian Howarth (Astro Grad Tutor)*

*Andrew Pontzen*

*Amelie Saintonge*

*Giorgio Savini*

*(Note also that from 2017 Serena Viti is admissions tutor for the Doctoral Training Centre in Data Intensive Science).*

| Student               | Supervisor    | Support         |
|-----------------------|---------------|-----------------|
| James Farr            | Font          | STFC            |
| Tomas James           | Rawlings/Viti | STFC            |
| Andrew Swan           | Farihi        | STFC            |
| Ben Henghes           | Lahav         | CDT / STFC      |
| Damien de Mijolla     | Viti          | CDT / STFC      |
| Davide Piras          | Joachimi      | CDT / STFC      |
| James Legg            | Yates         | CDT/STFC        |
| Kai Yip               | Tinetti       | CDT / STFC      |
| Flavien Hardy         | Achilleos     | Perren - Impact |
| Chris Pedersen        | Kitching/Font | Cosmoparticle   |
| Romain Meyer          | Ellis         | ERC             |
| Maria Niculescu-Duvaz | Barlow        | ERC             |

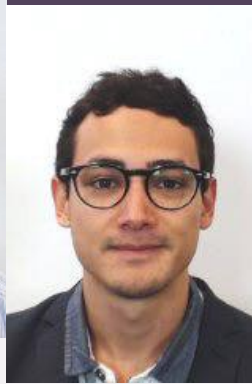
- **New initiative: Centre for Doctoral Training for ‘Data Intensive Science’.**
- **\*All\* students in principle, regardless of support, should have access to some of the events / resources for students from the CDT (and vice versa).**

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## Background information:

- 86 UK/EU applications, lower than the more typical >100
  - Of these, 64m:22f (74:26%)
  - 41 scheduled interviewees: 28m:13f (67:32%)
  - Four interviewees withdrew before (1m,2f) or after (1f) interview,
    - leaving 27m:10f (73:27% – same ratio as applicants)
  - Initial offers: 8m:2f (80:20%)
- +Two F overseas Astro candidates were supported for UCL scholarships:  
One withdrew, the other accepted fellowship (?) or similar.

James Farr  
Flavien Hardy  
Tomas James  
Romain Meyer  
Maria Niculescu-Duvaz

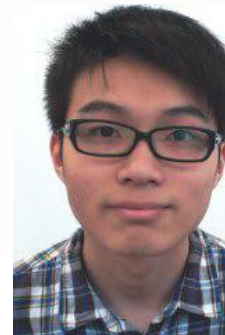


Chris Pedersen  
Andrew Swan



**CDT:**

Damien de Mijolla  
Ben Henghes  
James Legg  
Davide Piras  
Kai Yip



| <i>Cohort</i>       | <i>M</i> | <i>F</i> | <i>%M</i> |                |
|---------------------|----------|----------|-----------|----------------|
| 2017                | 6        | 1        | 85        | (+5M CDT=>92%) |
| <i>Applied</i>      |          |          | 74        |                |
| <i>Interviewed</i>  |          |          | 67        |                |
| <i>Init. offers</i> |          |          | 80        |                |
| 2016                | 7        | 4        | 64        |                |
| 2015                | 5        | 5        | 50        |                |
| 2014                | 8        | 1        | 89        |                |
| 2013                | 7        | 3        | 70        |                |
| 2012                | 6        | 2        | 75        |                |
| 2011                | 8        | 2        | 80        |                |
| 2011:16             | 41       | 17       | 71        |                |
| CDT                 | 14       | 2        | 88        |                |

# Withdrawals / Decline of Offer Details

| Student      | M/F | Withdraw / Decline | Undergrad at:      | Area / Supv of Interest |
|--------------|-----|--------------------|--------------------|-------------------------|
| Gawlas       | F   | W<br>[AMOP]        | UCL<br>(Chemistry) | Exo / SF<br>(GT/SV)     |
| Friswell, I. | F   | W<br>[Edinburgh]   | Edinburgh          | Cosmo (BJ)              |
| Tarsitano    | F   | W<br>[ETH?]        | ETHZ, Switz.       | Cosmo<br>(OL/HP)        |
| O’Kane       | F   | D<br>[MSSL]        | Aberystwyth        | Planetary (NA)          |
| Piette       | F   | D<br>[Cam]         | Cambridge          | Exoplanets<br>(JF)      |
|              |     |                    |                    |                         |
| Pizzardo     | M   | W<br>[Milan]       | Uni of Padova      | Cosmo                   |
| Walmsley     | M   | D<br>[Oxford]      | Edinburgh          | Cosmo (BJ)              |
|              |     |                    |                    |                         |
|              |     |                    |                    |                         |

- Nick will circulate details (in fact, may already have done so) about a document 'astrohdproc' for interested staff, which contains a summary of the Astro group's admissions procedure. (Will place on UCL Dropbox or similar).
- Document will also contain details of a new framework for staff who wish to provide written feedback to the Panel on any interviewees in the coming round. (This is for anyone who wishes to provide input beyond the usual liaison we undertake between the Panel and potential supervisors of new students).

- Nick, Andrew and Amelie will meet in December regarding overseas applicants.
- Deadline for UK/EU candidates is **January 26, 2018.**
- **Interviews will take place Feb 27, Feb 28, Mar 1**
- **Please try and ensure you are here for all days as far as possible. No one day for any particular subject as we have a system where applicants book their own interview ‘time slots’.**
- Thanks to Kay, Serena, PhD students for helping on interview days -- and all staff with whom we liaised, and who have provided constructive feedback.