

Info forwarded by Knut Fossum, Ciris.

Subject: Apply now to the "Spin Your Thesis!" and "Drop Your Thesis!" programmes

Dear ELGRA member, dear colleague,

We are glad to share with you the ESA education announcement of opportunities for university students: Spin and Drop Your Thesis. As ELGRA, we are supporting these great ESA projects and we would like to ask you to encourage your students to apply, they will in any case benefit from such an experience.

Every year ESA Education office releases new calls for proposals for university student teams to perform experiments in hyper- and micro-gravity platforms. During this time students, together with their universities, are encouraged to submit their proposals for experiments affected by gravity. There is no restriction on the field of science that can be investigated. The only stipulation is that access to the experimental facilities is crucial to the study.

Spin Your Thesis! uses the Large Diameter Centrifuge facility located at ESA's European Space Research and Technology Centre (ESTEC) in Noordwijk, the Netherlands. It is a hypergravity facility. At eight metres in diameter, this centrifuge can reproduce a gravitational force from 1 to 20 times the pull of Earth's gravity.

Drop Your Thesis! using the 123-metre-tall drop tower located at the Center of Applied Space Technology and Microgravity (ZARM), Bremen, Germany. Experiments can either be dropped from the top or catapulted upwards from the bottom. During the 'launches', the experiment experience for up to 9.3 seconds microgravity condition similar to being in orbit.

Calls close on 9th October 2016 for campaigns in autumn 2017. Visit http://www.esa.int/Education/Spin_Your_Thesis and http://www.esa.int/Education/Drop_Your_Thesis for more information or do not hesitate to contact us with any questions you may have.

Kind regards,

Monica Monici
The ELGRA President