

KDC – Bachelor Track Research Coordinator

Introduction

The joint objective of the aviation sector and the public authorities is to ensure a sustainable future for aviation in the Netherlands and for the Mainport Schiphol in particular. The aviation sector – Royal Schiphol Group (RSG), KLM and Air Traffic Control the Netherlands (LVNL) – is challenged to a continuous development of the Mainport, with three dominant development themes:

- 1) The reduction of the environmental impact of the current generation of fossil-fuel driven aircraft.
- 2) The technological and logistical innovation of the airport, ANSP and airline operational processes, in order to provide a competitive environment for aviation.
- 3) The accomodation of new airspace users to facilitate new forms of mobility, and new types of aircraft as part of the transition to zero-emission aviation.

The sector partners are aware that collaboration between stakeholders is essential to achieve the objectives of the *Uitvoeringsagenda Luchtvaartnota*. To this end the aviation sector partners have committed themselves to the Knowledge Development Centre (KDC) Mainport Schiphol, a foundation to develop knowledge and innovative solutions for the sustainable future of aviation in the Netherlands.

The main task of KDC is executing R&D programmes and projects, aimed at the airside development of the Mainport Schiphol. Activities are based on the KDC Research Agenda, which is formulated by KDC in cooperation with the sector and public authorities. KDC works together with knowledge institutes, consultancy firms and universities. The collaboration with universities has been structured in the KDC Centre of Excellence, with a master track program with the Delft University of Technology and a bachelor track program with the Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences¹.

The relation between KDC and Universities

On behalf of its founding partners, KDC involves universities in the innovation of the ATM system, through the provision of research challenges to its students. The framework in which universities perform research in support of the aviation sector through is called the “KDC Centre of Excellence” (KDC CoE). Many of the research subjects are aviation related/oriented and it stands to reason that the aerospace and aviation faculties, in particular at TU Delft and the University of Applied Sciences in Amsterdam, are prime suppliers of students to the KDC CoE. However other universities are also welcome to the collaboration.

The collaboration with universities is supported by a research coordinator, with the aim to support the KDC partners in the development of assignments and the guidance of students during their thesis work. The aim of the research coordinator is to ensure operational relevance and applicability, as part of the demand driven focus of the KDC.

The relationship with participating universities has been structured in a Master track and Bachelor track. Both tracks have a full development scope, i.e. are not limited to a particular subject.

¹ The collaboration between KDC and universities is not an exclusive relation with the two mentioned universities. KDC is open to any university that wishes to invest in the development of aviation. Students from other universities are welcome to do their master- or bachelor thesis with KDC as well.

KDC has a position for a research coordinator

The KDC has a position for a Bachelor track research coordinator. The Bachelor track research coordinator will collaborate closely with the Master track research coordinator in the KDC CoE and with the KDC management team. The Bachelor track research coordinator is the primary point of contact for the universities involved in the KDC CoE Bachelor track.

Tasks of the research coordinator

The research coordinator...

- will be tasked with the development of bachelor track research topics that address the challenges of the aviation sector;
- will be tasked with defining and tuning the BSc assignments in cooperation with the university staff and with staff of the KDC members;
- will be tasked with practical support of bachelor thesis students on behalf of the aviation sector;
- will co-operate with universities to recruit and select BSc students;
- will report and coordinate with KDC and partners on progress, outcomes and governance;
- will stimulate research at the participating universities and will promote and proliferate research results;
- will foster integration of the student and the thesis work with the aviation sector, i.e. KLM, RSG or LVNL where applicable.

Profile of the research coordinator

The research coordinator has...

- academic analytical skills;
- an orientation on operational processes and operational aspects;
- experience in the field of aviation and air traffic control;
- an ability to connect the operational and scientific domains;
- an interest in the university organisation and its curriculum;
- the ability to coach students and bring the best out of them;
- a broad interest.

Assignment

The assignment will initially be for one year with the intention for an annual extension up to three years. The assignment is for 0,4 FTE. The research coordinator will be stationed at Schiphol-Oost (LVNL building, Stationsplein Zuid-west 1001, Schiphol).

Application

Applicants are requested to submit a proposal that contains:

- a letter of motivation;
- a resumé;
- a quotation.