A New Swedish Master’s Degree Programme in Applied Radiation Protection

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1. MOTIVATION FOR THE PROGRAMME

At the beginning of the 2000s the Swedish Radiation Safety Authority (SSM) identified several shortcomings in the competence required to achieve the Government’s goal of a “radiation-safe society”. Its two main findings were:

- The lack of expertise and advanced competence in the field increases the risk of harm to individuals and damage to the environment as a consequence of non-voluntary exposure to ionizing radiation due to radiological or nuclear misadventures, accidents and terrorist attacks.
- As a consequence of the previous finding, there is a need for a generally oriented radiation protection programme at university level, intended for personnel not only within the health care sector and nuclear industry, but also in environmental and radiation protection authorities and other organisations involved in the emergency preparedness.

2. THE STRUCTURE OF THE PROGRAMME

In response to the above findings, a Master’s programme in Applied Radiation Protection was developed by lecturers at the universities of Gothenburg and Lund. Most of the courses will be given at the University of Gothenburg, and it is planned to introduce the programme in the autumn of 2012.

Some of the obligatory courses will also be available as separate courses for continuous professional development (CPD). These are outlined in red. Details of the individual courses, as well as recommended optional courses, can be obtained by contacting one of the authors (contact information is given below).

3. APPLICATION AND ADMISSION

There are two main entries:

1. Entry at the Basic level

The aim of the first two years is to provide a general understanding of and knowledge in mathematics and physics. Semesters five and six in the third year provide courses in radiation physics.

2. Entry at the Advanced level

Entrants at the advanced level must have the equivalent of 180 ECTS in general physics and mathematics (applications can be individually reviewed).

4. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

As the programme is still being developed, information is being updated continuously. A homepage will be available later this year at: www.radfys.gu.se/utbildning/master/. For more information, or to apply to the programme, please contact one of the authors.

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