

Report on Workshop 3

How Can You Make a
Researcher Employable?

Are Researchers Ready for a Knowledge Intensive Europe?

14TH TO 15TH MAY 2013 PRINTWORKS, DUBLIN CASTLE, DUBLIN 2, IRELAND



WORKSHOP TOPICS

- Main Topic: How can you make a researcher employable?
- Two sub-topics
 - Job opportunities and skills needed
 - Career planning and professional development
- Presentations and group work for both sub-topics



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SPEAKERS

Dr. Damien Lanfrey (Adviser on Innovation Policy to the Italian Ministry of Education)

'My career in various sectors and how I obtained the skills I needed'

Dr. Iain Cameron (Research Councils UK)

'Job Opportunities and Skills Needs from a European perspective'

Dr. Claire Conway (Careers Adviser University of Oxford)

'How can universities support researchers in their career development?'

Workshop coordinator: Alie Kwint

Workshop rapporteur: Dr. Gemma Irvine



OBSERVATIONS

- Researchers should have an open mind to alternative career paths
- Researchers have their own responsibility for their careers
- Give employers more exposure to researchers to show them the 'value' of the researchers



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PRACTICAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- Show researchers (pre-PhD and after) different career options / give diverse experience
 - Pre-entry PhD advice needed for researchers
 - Use Marie Curie funding for funding internships (outside academia) for postdocs (new fellowship?)
 - Career advice from people from outside academia to widen researchers' views
 - 'reality-check' of current employment situation for researchers



PRACTICAL RECOMMENDATIONS

- Career planning:
 - Each researcher should have clear training goals and training programmes
 - Career planning needs to be compulsory for awards, updates in career plan required
- Career support:
 - Each HEI needs a Research Careers advisor
 - H2020 should provide a strategy to make all HEIs provide support to researchers
- More attention for 'mid-career' professionals in industry to do PhD's



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