

From Snapchat to LinkedIn: transferable skills training for today's researchers

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EURAXESS TOP IV – Career Development



HR EXCELLENCE IN RESEARCH



From Snapchat to LinkedIn



TODAY'S WEBINAR

What skills should researchers acquire and develop as they move through their careers?

How can we help researchers build the best resume needed for their field?



PSRL- Professional Skills for Research Leaders

- Online course created by Epigeum
- Enhance leadership and management skills
- Online and in person seminars
- Adaptable to your institution's needs
- ULiege target audience: R2-R3 according to EU Research Profiles

How can you take the next step in your research career?

Are you happy with the current balance in your work – between research and teaching, as mentor and mentee, leader and manager?

What skills do you need to develop to get the career you want?

Professional Skills for Research Leaders is an online programme designed to help individual researchers enhance their approach to **leadership, management and engagement**. It will enable you to identify a range of strategies and opportunities to establish yourself as a research leader, from writing compelling and competitive **funding** applications to managing relationships with **team** members and **collaborators**.

I want to make the next leap in my career. I need to focus a lot more on my leadership skills: team building, how to deal with difficult people, how to understand university finances, but also how to continue my role in mentoring the next generation of academics.

Dr Ariadne Vromen,
Associate Professor in Government
and International Relations,
University of Sydney



PSRL- Professional Skills for Research Leaders

6 online modules:

- Charting the course
- Developing and consolidating your research career
- Funding your research
- Managing a research team
- Research collaboration
- Communicating your research



PSRL- Professional Skills for Research Leaders

Modules include:

- Case studies
- Interactive activities
- Quizzes
- Video testimonies
- Personal portfolio


Think about location


One thing I've learned over the years is how important it is to think about how things will look on the screen. It sounds superficial, but it really does make a difference to how people perceive the story. TV journalists often like to interview people 'on location' so they might ask you to pick a suitable setting at your institution. Think about backgrounds that would add interest to the story, like a library or a fieldwork site or a laboratory. You really don't want to be interviewed in front of a white wall or some dated looking equipment.





NEXT


My collaborators and I are all interested in ancient diets – what humans ate before there studies tooth wear, and we have another collaborator who can reconstruct diet from bone chemistry. I have a hard time understanding – much less evaluating – the strength of their arguments. What should I do?

Check out some books on ancient climatology, dentistry and the like. 

Ignore what you don't understand. Your collaborators are the experts in these areas. 

Carefully consider alternative interpretations when summarizing your work. 

Ask your collaborators to explain when you don't understand something. 

Work on developing a common vocabulary and conceptual framework for your collaboration. 

Just because someone is an 'expert' does not mean they are always correct. You need to be able to evaluate what your colleagues are saying in the context of the entire project.

PSRL- Professional Skills for Research Leaders

In person seminars:

- 6 + 1 information meeting
- 12 participants max
- 2.5 hours (includes a break)
- Multi-media presentations

Seminar presenters:

- Faculty Deans/ Vice Deans
- Research Council leadership
- Communications & HR department staff
- Research Office staff

Consider age, discipline, international experience, etc

PSRL- Professional Skills for Research Leaders

What we've learned

- Value of institutional buy-in
- Recognition may not be of value
- Expectations for participation and attendance
- Interdisciplinarity is +++++

What's next

- Further develop certain topics (one day/half day seminars)
- Expand alumni network
- Maximize online options (especially in light of Covid-19)

A researcher's career path....



Soft skills development

Writing & editing skills: grants, projects, reports, presentation

Technical skills: data and statistical analysis, programming skills

Project management: individual motivation, meeting deadlines, decision-making skills

Presentation skills: several opportunities to be development during the doctoral experience

Collaboration & team-work: working on a team, managing multiple expectations

Leadership & management skills: leading a team, mentoring younger students, teaching new material to others

Conflict management: relationship management

B2B- Backpack to Briefcase

- Programme designed to connect students and professionals
- Career advice, professional encouragement and networks
- Career panel discussions, speed networking, industry evenings, mentorship meals
- Encourages researchers to think more broadly about their field and be open to opportunities



Thank you!

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