SESSION INFORMATION

Please refer to the ‘What are the sessions about?’ document to find out more about each session.

Session 1: 9.00am
Intro Introduction: The Big Decisions (Room C16)

Session 2: 9.30am
The Employment Landscape for BMH Researchers (Room C2)
The Employment Landscape for Humanities Researchers (Room D7)
The Employment Landscape for FSE Researchers (Room C9)

Session 3: 11.00am
I’m open to a change or want something different – where do I start? (Room C9)
I still like my discipline or being at a university, but not sure about being an academic... (Room C2)
Academic or bust! I’m looking for smart strategies for making it as an academic. (Room D7)

Session 4: 12.00pm
Tales from the other side of the fence – leaving academia after your viva ... (Room C9)
Starting to climb the academic ladder – my post-doc story, so far ... (Room D7)
Preparing for academia: Building your teaching practice (Room D1)
Post-doc transitions – jumping off the academic career ladder ... (Room D2)

Session 5: 2.00pm
Earning a living – employers’ views and beyond (Room C16)

Session 6: 3.00pm
The Big “So What?” - and your (small!) “Next Steps” (Room C16)

Coaching & cake: 3.50pm (Floor C CONCOURSE)

Turn over for example questions to ask the panels
EXAMPLE QUESTIONS FOR THE PANEL

In order to get the most out of the sessions today, please spend a few moments before the start of the event to think about what kind of questions you would like to ask our panels. Below is a list of questions you may find useful to refer to.

- At what point in your PhD or research position did you / should you really begin to think about the next step in your career?
- How did you decide on which careers to follow – what other careers did you consider or would you consider as a next step?
- What other jobs, within your organisation, do you know of which have been filled by researchers who have a PhD?
- How did you go about the process of looking for employment?
- What would you recommend researchers did to increase their chances of employment?
- What top tip would you give to someone about how to advance their career?
- How did you successfully market a PhD (and postdoctoral research) to potential employers? Would you do anything different with the knowledge that you have now?
- How are PhD qualified researchers perceived in the job market?
- At interview what types of questions were you asked about your research? If you were interviewing a researcher what questions would you ask?
- What was your first job after your PhD?
- How did you find that job?
- Was that job what you expected? What was different?
- Did you use the skills and knowledge from your research in your first job? Do you use these skills in your current role?
- What did you learn during your PhD and/or postdoctoral positions which was useful in your first job?
- Is there anything you learnt during your time in research which you use in your current job?
- Is there anything you wish you had learnt or done during your time in research which would have helped your career?