



Careers
Service

Explore. Develop. Connect.

Careers in Science Seminar

Janice Montgomery, Senior
Careers Adviser, University of
Aberdeen



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OF ABERDEEN

Learning objectives

Develop awareness of possible future careers

Delineate the key aspects of CV preparation

Understand the importance of deconstructing vacancies effectively

Understand the importance of effective applications

Begun to develop an action plan

Consider

- What are you looking for?
- What are your career goals?
- What are your interests?
- What motivates you?
- What is your ideal job?
- What can you offer? (Strengths, achievements etc)
- Where and how will you look now?



Knowledge is confidence

- Network effectively
- Social Media
- Join national Institutes
- Sign up for appropriate job sites now
- Think widely
- Meet industry professionals
- Capitalise on every opportunity



Gradcracker Vacancies



Deconstruct vacancies

If you are an enthusiastic graduate looking for an opportunity to develop whilst enhancing your qualifications through stimulating but demanding work we may be able to help. You should have a genuine interest in advanced extrusion, printing and recycling technologies and relish a challenge. Our business presents interesting challenges for the preservation of products, shelf life extension and environmental management amongst others.

Over the years we have offered Graduates a great start in industry

Who are we looking for?

You will have a good degree in a technically biased subject, strong project management and analytical skills all of which will be complemented by the ability to deliver results, excellent communication skills and outstanding teamwork. It is essential to have a good understanding of business issues in a manufacturing environment not to mention a 'can do' attitude and plenty of drive.

Application

Please send your CV to the address below and this will be directed to the site or business most relevant to your skills and knowledge for consideration.

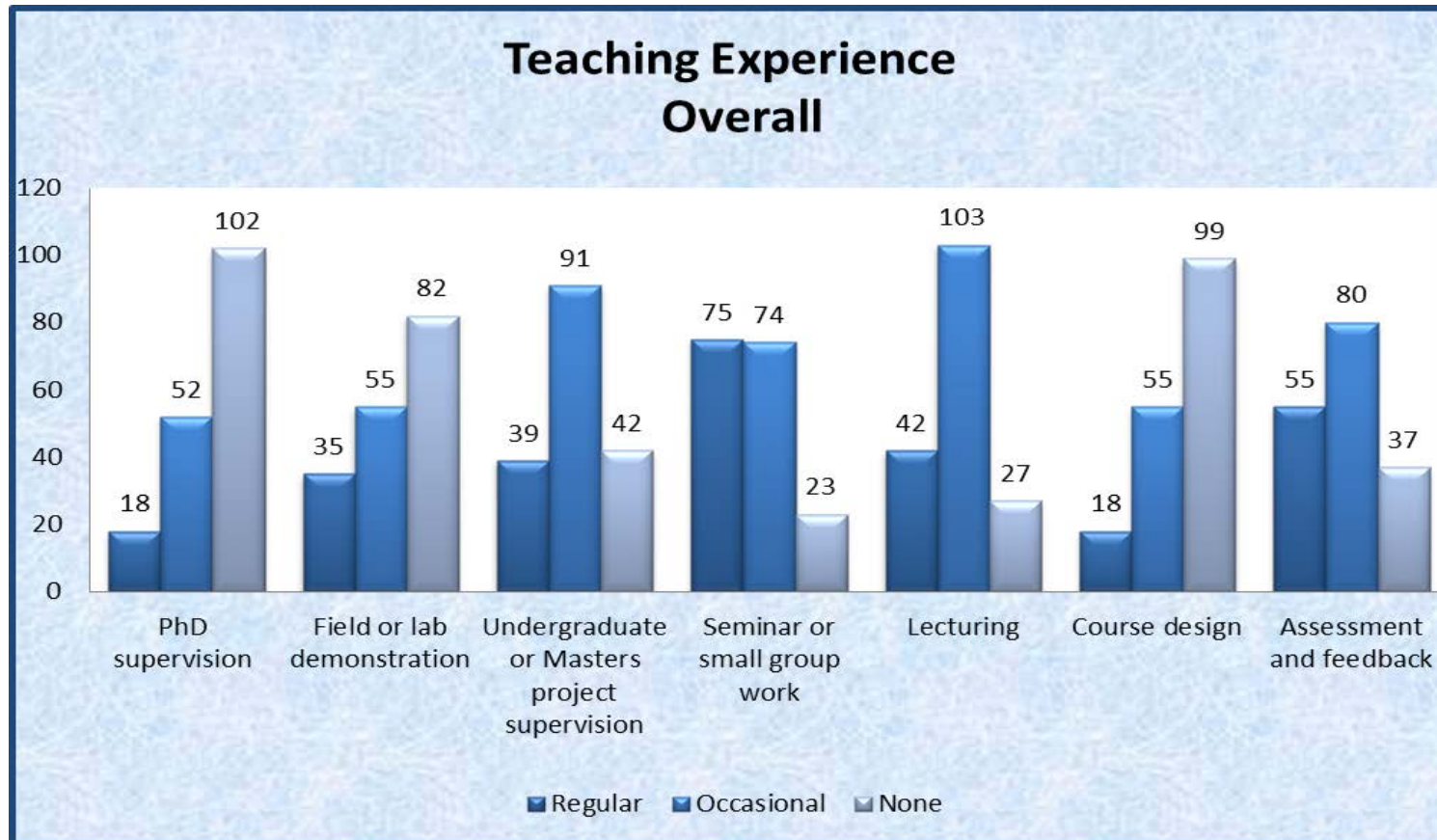
AGCAS survey: “What do you think are the requirements for new lecturers in your discipline?”

- Publications
- Teaching experience
- Grants
- Collaboration
- Post Doctoral positions
- Skills base

Publications

- 1-2 papers a year for new lecturers, 5-10 papers published if they have done several years post doc.
- Show a continued and, ideally, an increasing output.
- First authorship on at least a proportion of papers, including papers from the PhD and then from postdoctoral research. “If there are no first author papers I might be concerned”.
- Co-authorship may indicate collaborations with others which would be good.
- “I would hope to see at least some of the papers in top journals in the topic area, ideally those where the potential candidate is first author”.

Teaching experience?



Summary of advice for academic positions

- Publications dominate - consistent and developing output – REF cycle influence
- Funding experience varied from plans/ideas to fellowships. Collaboration with senior colleagues can be important
- Interdisciplinarity & collaboration – once in the job
- Most don't expect extensive teaching experience & few require formal teaching qualifications.
- Candidates who seem collaborative (esp at dept. level) and are excellent communicators are sought after
- Postdocs should be aiming for a lectureship by 5+ years. After 10 it becomes difficult.
- Career breaks widely seen as challenging for career maintenance – try to keep 'foot in door'

What is the fundamental purpose of a CV?

A CV has only one chance to impress and one purpose - to get you to an interview.

Ultimate aims of a good CV

- Demonstrate that you can do the job in question
- Establish how well you did your previous job or show off your academic and other achievements
- Indicate you have the skills, education and enthusiasm for this new role
- Secure an interview so that you can prove your suitability in person
- *Create an opening for a job which did not previously exist.*

Skills based CV

Often includes:

- personal details
- personal profile
- skills profile; e.g. research, report writing, data analysis, teaching experience, peer reviewing, technical/lab abilities
- education
- work history
- interests
- references (2 referees)

Academic CV

Often includes:

- personal details
- education and awards/grants/prizes
- research interests – past, current, future
- research experience
- teaching and administrative experience
- professional memberships
- publications and attendance at conferences
- references (3 referees)

How do you make your CV stand out from the rest?



CV Essentials

- **Clarity**
- **Relevance**

Maximum 2 pages of A4

Black on white

Consistent font and size

Good use of bold

Well spaced

Faultless spelling and
grammar

Targeted for each vacancy

Before you start....

Analyse the job description and then think about how to present evidence that you meet the requirements.

Give prominence to your academic achievements and research interests.

Academic employers will be interested in relevant specialist research skills and academic experience and will be less interested in your personal transferable skills.

Consider a career summary.

Consider creating an appendix with a list of your publications and an abstract of your research work to cut down on detail within the body of your CV.

.....or the opposite!

www.abdn.ac.uk/careers



Applications

Personal details

Work and academic history

Competency questions

Solve the company's problem question

Why do you want to work for them?

Clarity, relevance, word limits



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Careers

What is a career?

Managing your career

Working in higher education

Career opportunities outside
higher education

Research versus non-research
careers

What do researchers do? Labour
market information

Working overseas

Employment by discipline

Marketing yourself

- ▶ Setting objectives
- ▶ Creating Effective CVs
- ▶ Job applications
- ▶ Presenting your research
- ▶ Covering letters
- ▶ Applying for Academic Jobs

Home » Careers » **Marketing yourself**

Marketing yourself

A skill for life

The tools of marketing yourself are valuable not just at times of job change, but as part of your ongoing career management. This section looks at promoting your strengths and talents to enable you to achieve your career goals. Its advice is both general:

- Setting objectives
- Creating effective CVs
- Job applications
- Presenting your research in job applications
- Successful interviews
- Networking

...and particular:

- Academic CVs
- Academic job applications
- Academic job interviews
- Assessment centres
- Job fairs

Related Links

- ▶ **Presenting your research**
Presenting your research to different audiences
- ▶ **Academic networking**
Using conferences, seminars and professional bodies to build your networks
- ▶ **Developing your academic career**
Guidance on how as research staff you can improve your career prospects
- ▶ **Job shadowing**
A very effective method for discovering what jobs really entail
- ▶ **Career options for researchers**
- ▶ **Employment in higher education**
- ▶ **Employment in other sectors**
- ▶ **Working overseas**

The Hub, 2nd Floor
Old Aberdeen

Opening hours

Mon – Fri, 9 am – 5 pm

Tues (term time) Until 8pm

Tel: 01224 273601

