

David J. Proctor

College of Life Sciences Postdoc Association | University of Dundee

Researchers: A Vision for National Engagement

Vitae Research Staff Conference

London St Pancras | 5 November 2009

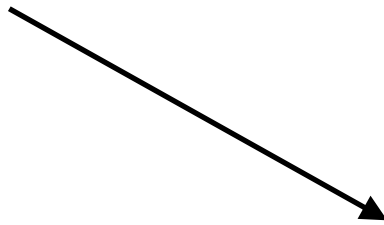


Why is it important to have a collective voice for research staff concerning issues of career development?

different disciplines

different institutions

similar aspirations



researcher

researcher

researcher

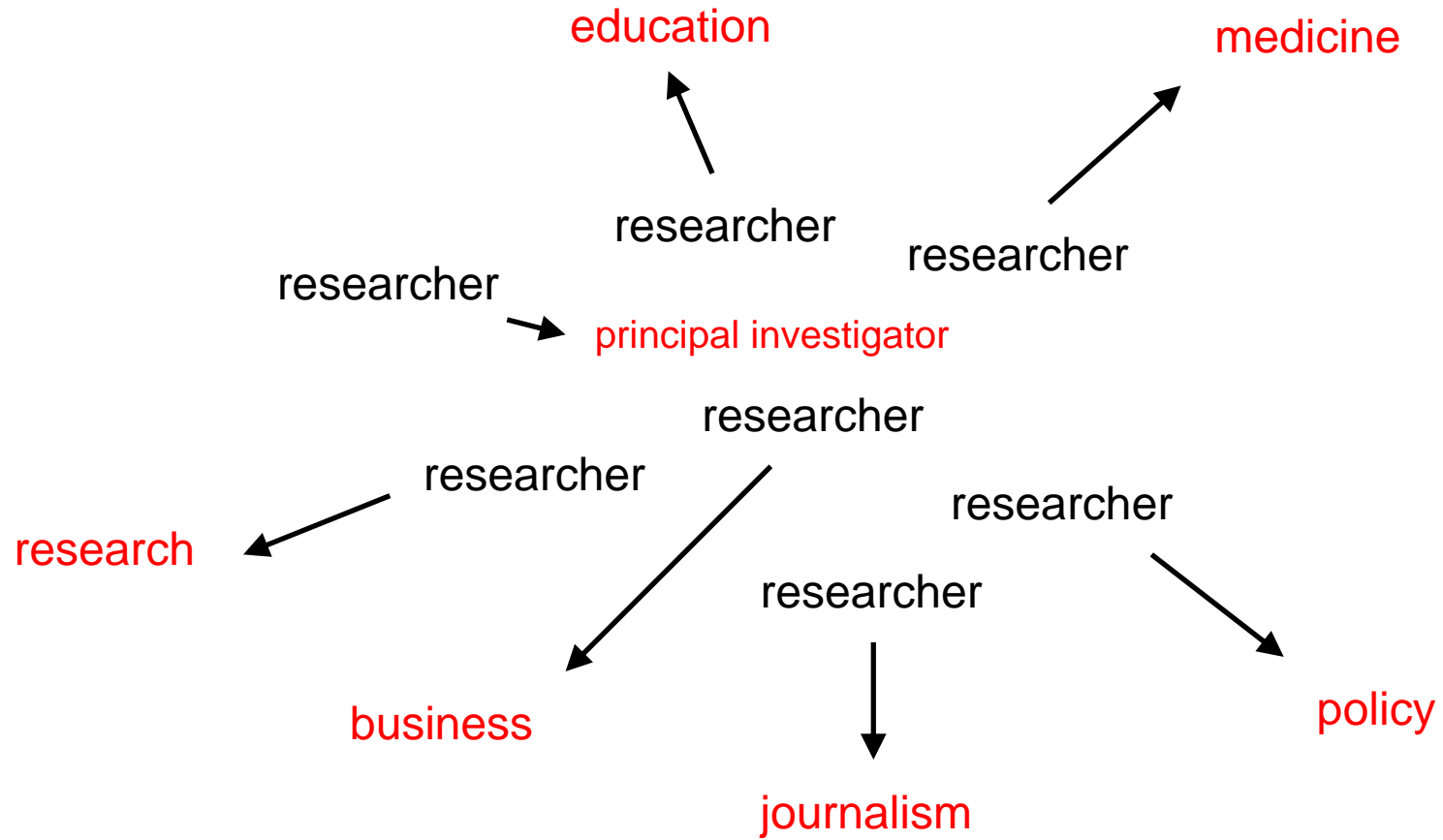
principal investigator

researcher

researcher

researcher

researcher





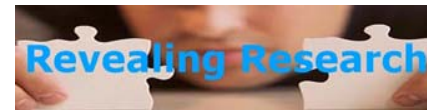
College of Art, Science & Engineering

College of Arts and Social Sciences

College of Life Sciences



College of Medicine, Dentistry and Nursing





Researchers are highly mobile and typically work on fixed term contracts...



Dundee

Edinburgh

York

Leeds

Sheffield

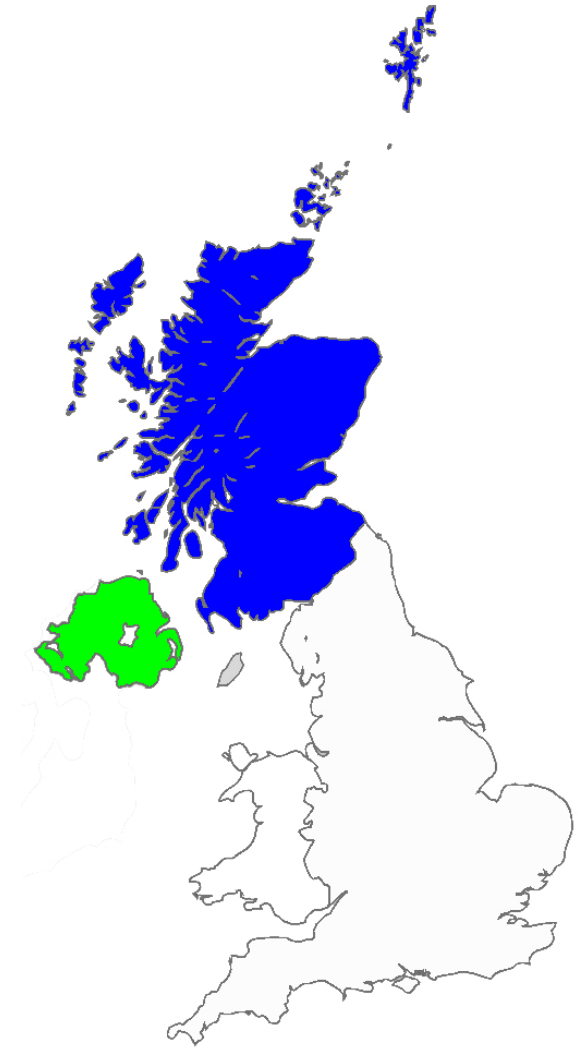
Cambridge

Oxford

Bristol

Southampton

Researchers: A Vision for National Engagement



communities of researchers



What other communities of researchers exist?

Which communities are most effective in engaging researchers in career development?

Why?

Researchers are highly mobile and typically work on fixed term contracts...



Officers

Representatives

Coordinators

Advisors

Chair

11 Divisions

Seminars

Faculty

Treasurer

9 represented

Webmaster

Partners

- College of Life Sciences Board
- School of Research Board
- Health & Safety Committee
- Concordat Steering Group

Publicity

Networking



Meetings

Conferences

CLSPA COLLEGE OF LIFE SCIENCES
POSTDOC ASSOCIATION
university of dundee

Generic Skills Dundee

Revealing Research

bi-x-**dundee**

 **vitae**
realising
the potential
of researchers
Incorporating the UK GRAD Programme and UKHERD

CRAC
The Career Development Organisation



Principle 5

Individual researchers share the responsibility for and need to pro-actively engage in their own personal and career development, and lifelong learning.

Issue: Research staff are hard to engage.

Solution: Structure research associations in a simple fashion
Ensure associations represent the interests of researchers
Facilitate interactions among researchers



Principle 5.5

Research managers and employers [have] a responsibility to provide honest advice and appropriate structures, and to equip researchers with the tools to manage their own careers.

Issue: Perceived lack of support for researcher career development among principal investigators

Solution: Implement routine monitoring and evaluation (**Principle 5.6**)
Create a mentoring system to support researchers
Provide leadership and management training at all levels

