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Enterprising Researchers

Go beyond business as usual

Frances Vaughan, Project Officer

Dr Rotimi Alabi

Project Aims and Strategy

Aims

1. Understand the skills that underpin enterprise and employability.

2. Create opportunities for researchers to acquire and develop employability and enterprise skills.

Strategy

1. Research

2. Resource Development

3. Employer Engagement

Research

Research

- **Employer perceptions:** stereotypes and traditional recruitment/development
- **North East employer challenges:** internationalisation, product development and innovation
- **Researcher perceptions:** difficulty in translating skills
- **Researcher skills gaps:** confidence, professional communication and assertiveness

Resource Development

Resource Development

- Identified skills gaps
- Developed workshops: leadership, assertiveness, problem solving, professional writing
- Offered individual consultations

Employer Engagement

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Employer Engagement

What can researchers give?

- Information literacy
- Problem solving
- Creativity
- Enthusiasm, integrity & responsibility
- Team working & independence
- Project management

Enterprising Researchers

Case Studies

What do you feel your business has gained from the initiative?

"We received **useful reports** which highlighted the answers to the things we wanted to know. It was **quick and easy**."

"**Fresh pair of eyes** looked at our business who were coming from a graduate background that had **new ideas and possible suggestions** about how we would develop."

Enterprising Researchers

Case Studies

What do you feel you have learned about the skills of doctoral researchers through this initiative?

"They have a **fresh, untarnished approach** to looking at business. Good to think we have helped with their ability to put what they have learned into actual real life situation which benefits themselves and the businesses worked in."

"There are skilled researchers who are far **more capable and creative in finding answers to questions than I had imagined**. We were very impressed by the quality of information we received and how it was presented to us. This was clearly **professional research**, not just a small project."

Employer Engagement

What can researchers gain?

- Leadership
- Collaboration
- Self-confidence
- Career management
- Responsiveness to opportunities
- Professional conduct
- Networking

My Enterprise Journey

RAB-MICROFLUIDICS
permitting point-of-need-analysis.

PhD Viva

Graduated PhD

OGIC Oil & Gas Innovation Centre

energy technology partnership

NERC SCIENCE OF THE ENVIRONMENT

The Royal Society of Edinburgh ENTERPRISE FELLOWSHIPS

Raised £155k

Oct 2015

Mar 2016

July 2016

Aug 2016

Feb 2017

Apr 2017

Enterprise Researcher

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DEESIDE NATURAL MINERAL WATER PANNANICH WELLS Scotland 1760

Incorporated

RAB-MICROFLUIDICS
permitting point-of-need-analysis.

Industry 4.0/Customer

CATAPULT Digital

INDUSTRY4.0 SUMMIT

Innovate UK HACK & PITCH COMPETITION FEB-APR 2017 MANCHESTER

SIEMENS

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What Skills Have I Required?

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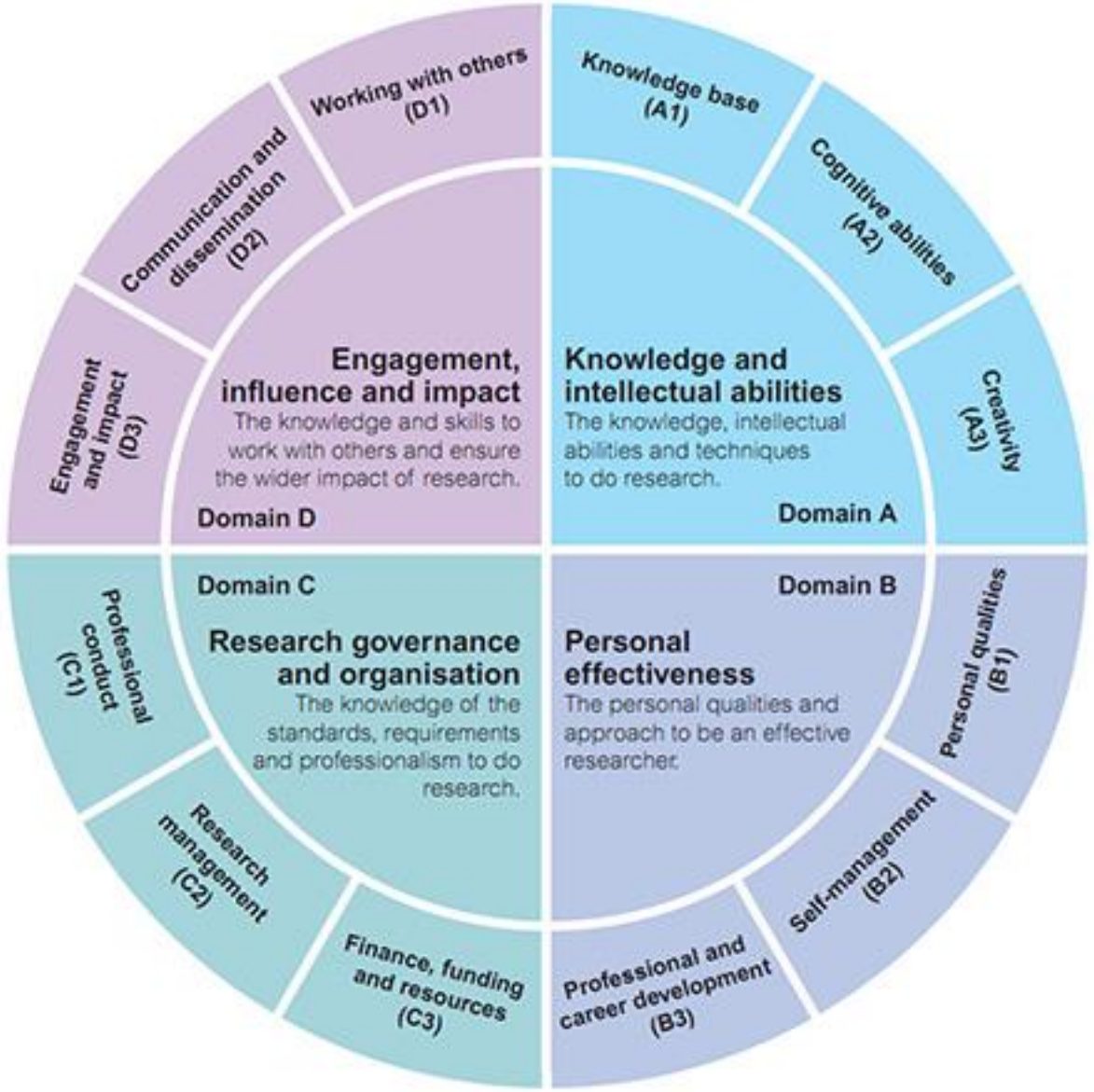
permitting point-of-need-analysis.



Get up and GO

Know what you know and also know what you do not know, then bridge the gap.

Think like the Employer

Steve - Manager

GE Oil & Gas

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