

INSTITUTIONAL CASE STUDY

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH



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Context and background

The University of Edinburgh has about 2140 research staff and employs two part-time Research Staff Career Consultants to support their career development. They provide one-on-one career development consultations and offer various career development workshops.

The University chose Prosper because it fits in with their existing careers provision and deemed it an excellent resource for researchers to be aware of, particularly for providing access to self-guided resources.

How was Prosper used?

The University of Edinburgh opted for Mode 1 Prosper delivery (<https://prosper.liverpool.ac.uk/institution-resources/boosting-the-career-development-of-postdocs-with-prosper/choose-your-mode-of-delivery/>) by promoting Prosper as an excellent career development resource.

The University's Research Staff Career Consultants adopted a light-touch approach to raising awareness of the Prosper Portal through various channels. They promoted Prosper in 1:1 career development consultations, sent direct emails about specific Prosper resources, and promoted key events via University LinkedIn pages.

In June 2025, the University of Edinburgh delivered a programme for Careers Month which explored different career topics with a focus on alternative roles beyond academia. Researchers engaged with the programme online and in-person, and some of the activities on offer included:

- A panel talk on working in the Life Sciences sector
- Two, one-hour sessions on career anxiety and narrative CVs
- A morning of short Quick Query appointments

Mode of delivery

1

Key stats

2140

research staff

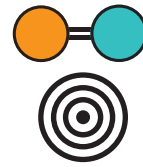
2

sessions based on Prosper resources

20

Prosper portal session attendees





The University of Edinburgh asked the Prosper team to deliver an online session on how to get the most of the Prosper portal for the programme. A member of the Prosper team facilitated this session, sharing practical insights and tips on using the portal's resources effectively. The session also highlighted key areas of the portal for researchers to be aware of, including features that are not commonly known about.

Prosper resources were used as a basis for creating other career development sessions, including a briefing session on employment sectors - a new addition to the University's Researcher Development Careers Development Programme in October 2025. In the following year in March 2026, Prosper resources were used again to design and run a session on growing your entrepreneurial thinking.

Impact and evaluation



The How to Get the Most out of the Prosper Portal session was well-received and attracted 20 researcher attendees. The session received top scores for feedback (5-star ratings) and participants "strongly agreed" that they would recommend the workshop to colleagues and peers.

The October 2025 briefing session on employment sectors was the highest attended session of the year with 35 participants.

Thanks in part to the frequent promotion of Prosper, usage of the Prosper Portal by those at the University of Edinburgh has significantly increased. Rising from 37 active users in June 2025 to 68 active users at the time of writing.

Future plans



The University of Edinburgh plans to run another briefing session on employment sectors in the next academic year.

The University will continue to raise awareness of the Prosper Portal and its resources through 1:1 consultations and LinkedIn. They intend on maintaining engagement with the Portal due to its value as a key resource.

