Introduction
What am I going to do when I finish my research? When do I start looking for a post? Which websites do I use? Where are the posts inside and outside academia advertised? These are all questions that researchers ask us, and there are answers out there. This sheet will provide you with some valuable job searching resources – whether you are looking for a job inside or outside of academia. You may wish to read it in conjunction with our ‘Career Development Resources for Researchers’ sheet. As job search and career transition for researchers can be more complex and challenging than for recent graduates, do contact us if you want to explore options, or to develop a plan of action with a career coach.

Is academia my only choice?
It is true to say that for many researchers their first thoughts when looking for a job turn to academia, i.e. a familiar environment. However there are other options. Every year around half of research student leavers find employment outside of academia – this might be in commercial research, the public sector or the third sector. See ‘What do Researchers do? - Early career progression of doctoral graduates 2013’. www.vitae.ac.uk/CMS/files/upload/What-do-researchers-do-Early-career-progression-2013.pdf

Whatever the sector, many employers will expect you to be able to demonstrate a range of skills, including analytical, writing, presentation, self learning and other skills; these skills have been traditionally valued in academic life, but are also appreciated by most employers. See: www.vitae.ac.uk/CMS/files/upload/Researcher%20Skills_2010.pdf

Recommended read: ‘University Researchers and the Job Market’ - practical resource for all early career researchers, whether looking to stay in research or move into another work area. Covers: 1. Career planning, 2. Job search, selection & interviews, 3 Support, 4. Resources. hwww.brookes.ac.uk/students/careers/students-and-graduates/how-we-can-help

Where do I find jobs in Academia?
Jobs.ac.uk is the best place to start. As well as a well-stocked database of posts covering all sorts of roles in Higher Education, the site has some useful articles in the Careers Advice section. www.jobs.ac.uk

Also have a look at the Times Higher Education – latest news from the world of Higher Education, including job vacancies www.timeshighereducation.co.uk
An Academic Career, hosted by The University of Manchester, contains a useful “Finding Jobs” section, with lots of links to vacancy sources and postdoc opportunities

www.academiccareer.manchester.ac.uk

FindAPostDoc does what it says on the tin! Postdoc opportunities and jobs for early career academics

www.findapostdoc.com

For HE jobs worldwide see www.acu.ac.uk/adverts
For HE jobs in the EU see www.academicjobseu.com

Where do I find jobs beyond Academia?

The most important thing to bear in mind when applying for jobs outside of academia is how you promote your knowledge, skills and experience. You will be competing with others who have different levels of qualifications; and a diverse range of skills and experience. The vast majority of employers outside of academia don’t specify “PhD required” in their adverts – but they don’t say “PhD’s need not apply” either! So don’t be put off applying!

The Brookes careers website has a powerful job search engine enabling you to access all sorts of job vacancies, both nationally and internationally. To use it just register on the site and sign in:

www.brookes.ac.uk/students/careers/students-and-graduates/getting-a-job/

General Graduate Recruitment sites and Careers Intelligence

While pitched at relatively recent graduates, many of the following websites are also useful for career changers, with lots of advice on CVs, job-hunting, as well as a data base of live graduate jobs. Sign up and most will email you graduate jobs in your areas of interest

- www.prospects.ac.uk – graduate schemes, hundreds of careers profiles; job sector information
- http://targetjobs.co.uk – careers intelligence & useful publications
- www.qrb.uk.com - graduate schemes, including experienced hire and advice
- www.milkround.com - graduate vacancies and events
- http://jobs.theguardian.com 1000’s of nationwide jobs
- www.realworldmagazine.com – careers sector information
- www.graduate-recruitment.co.uk – graduate jobs for small and medium sized enterprises, as well as graduate schemes
- https://nationalcareersservice.direct.gov.uk UK National Careers Service
- http://gb.kompass.com and www.searchme4.co.uk - employer directories for researching company information

Employment in Oxfordshire

- www.brookes.ac.uk/careers – local employers often send us vacancies directly
- www.oxfordtimes.co.uk/jobs - local Oxfordshire jobs
- www.oxfordshire.gov.uk/jobs - jobs with Oxfordshire County Council
- www.dailyinfo.co.uk/jobs/ - search vacancies & advertise for 'jobs wanted' in Oxford
- www.gumtree.com/jobs/oxford more local jobs...
- jobseekers.direct.gov.uk – national and local jobs from Jobcentre Plus

General job mega sites

- www.monster.co.uk and www.fish4jobs.co.uk

International Job search

- Country profiles – for insights into the job market, etc, in other countries check out:
  www.prospects.ac.uk/country_profiles.htm
  http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/country_profiles/default.stm

Recruitment Agencies

- www.rec.uk.com - database of specialist Recruitment Agencies
- www.agencycentral.co.uk - UK’s leading Recruitment Agencies and job sites directory
- www.inspiredselection.co.uk - agency for publishing jobs in Oxfordshire
- www.srg.co.uk – agency for jobs in Science in Oxfordshire
- www.reed.co.uk/scientific/ - nationwide agency for science jobs & all other types of jobs