

Teaching-focused lecturer Case Study

What made you think about leaving research in HE?

Although I have left full-time research in HE, I wanted to combine research with lecturing. I felt that within my particular department and role, I had reached a 'ceiling' and that it was time to move on and use the experience I had acquired in other ways.

How did you get an idea of what you wanted to do instead?

I wanted a change and felt that a job combining research with teaching would be more rewarding, varied and challenging. I wanted to stay in an Academic post, as this is an environment that I feel comfortable in professionally, and it felt like a natural progression.

How did you find the actual job you now have?

I used jobs.ac.uk and other online resources such as Guardian jobs to search for academic posts in my field. There were a number of opportunities at the time and I was lucky enough to be offered the post that I wanted at a relatively new University.

Were there any surprises in the process of securing the job e.g. interview style?

The interview was quite gruelling actually, although this should not put anyone off. It was a real challenge and a rare opportunity to talk about the skills that I thought would match me with the job. As expected, the interview was quite formal. It was in two parts: a formal interview and a presentation to the current members of staff.

What top tips would you offer to other RS making a change?

Even if you think you might not have all the skills to do a job - apply for it anyway. Employers should see your potential. Somebody will give you a chance!

Try to focus on what it is that you want from your career and where you think you would like to be in 2 or 3 years time. It sounds like a cliché, but helps focus your mind for the interview.

Give yourself time to settle in to a new job role as it can take longer than you think.