

MANCHESTER
1824

The University of Manchester

What after the PhD?

Dr. Tine Buffel

EU Marie Curie Fellow

School of Social Sciences

The University of Manchester

During the PhD

- Think about what you want to do *after* the PhD *during* the PhD
 - Build your CV accordingly
 - List your options / list potential funding opportunities
 - Talk about these with people who can advise you
 - Make a plan
- Academic career? Importance of building an academic CV
 - International publications
 - Conference participation
 - Research experience abroad
 - Build a social network among peer researchers
 - Demonstrate independence as a researcher
 - Demonstrate teaching capacities
 - Participate in funding applications
 - Awards

After the PhD:

- Viva PhD successful: June 2012
 - Title: Experiences of place and neighbourhood among older people: Developing age-friendly communities
 - PhD based on publications
- My options after the PhD
 - Take up 50% research post at University of Brussels – in combination with 50% research at Manchester University (1 year)
 - Apply for post doc with country-specific funding schemes
 - Apply for Marie intra-European Marie Curie fellowship
 - Waitressing job in restaurant

Why did I apply for the Intra-European Fellowship for career development - Marie Curie actions?

- Opportunity to develop and focus on research
- Freedom to shape the research (own research proposal/idea)
- Continuation of successful collaborations with the host academic/institution
- Support from host academic and institution in writing the application
- Emphasis on training and development opportunities for the researcher
- Working in an international environment with top academics in your field
- Working in an interdisciplinary research environment/network
- Developing international networks
- Opens up opportunities in terms of further career path

What is a Marie-Curie Action Scheme?

- EU funding instrument within the pillar of Excellent Science
- Excellent Science pillar has 30% of H2020 budget
- Overall objective of this pillar is to be achieved via:
 - Funding new research and ideas
 - Attracting and retaining high potential individuals
 - Funding most talented and creative researchers

Marie Sklodowska-Curie Actions

“Ensure excellent and innovative research training as well as attractive career and knowledge exchange opportunities through cross-border and cross-sector mobility of researchers to best prepare them to face current and future societal challenges”

What is a Marie-Curie Action Scheme?

- Open to all research & innovation domains
- Mobility both cross-border and cross-sector is a key requirement
- Aim is to both develop new knowledge and enhance skills of people carrying out the research and innovation
- Strong participation across sectors
- Dissemination and public engagement through public outreach
- Gender balance – Equal opportunities
- Total budget of €6.2bn compared with €4.7bn in FP7

Marie Curie Actions Key Schemes

Innovative Training Networks

2014 deadline 9th April
2015 deadline 13th Jan

Individual Fellowships

2014 deadline 11th Sept
2015 deadline 10th Sept

Research and Innovation Staff Exchange

2014 deadline 24th April
2015 deadline 28th April

Intra-European Fellowship for career development (IEF) – Marie Curie Actions

- Postdoctoral fellowship to develop a career in Europe outside home country, improve career prospects
- Attain/strengthen leading independent position
- **Who can apply?**
 - You must have either a doctoral degree or at least 4 years' full-time research experience
- **Which topics can be funded?**
 - Proposals are welcomed from all areas of scientific and technological research
- **What does the funding cover?**
 - Training-through-research
 - Hands on training to develop scientific skills
 - Intersectoral or interdisciplinary knowledge transfer
 - The capacity to build collaborations
 - Active scientific and financial management of your research project
 - Developing organisational skills

Advantages and disadvantages of the fellowship

+	-
Time to focus on research	Restricted to 24 months
Supervision and working together with top academics	Rather bureaucratic to apply
Training opportunities	Requires moving countries which can be disruptive
Broadens your horizon and improves career prospects	
Flexible scheme	
Generous financial support	
Independence (own research project)	

What's next?

- Apply to national (Belgian) research funding bodies who support the return of experienced researchers who worked abroad (2-3 years)
- Apply for tenure track position in Brussels
- Apply for a postdoc position / lectureship in UK
- Apply for a ERC starting grant (up to 5 years)

MANCHESTER
1824

The University of Manchester

Thank you for listening. Questions?