

Professionalizing Transferable Skills Programmes: Learning from Experience

The landscape of doctoral education has changed significantly over the last decade. Enhancing the quality of doctoral education and of the doctoral experience has become a common goal of universities all over Europe. One result has been the widespread establishment of transferable skills programmes for PhD candidates. Today, many universities are setting up and further developing such programmes – individually or in networks, as part of degree requirements (with credit recognition and diploma supplement certificates) or as elective professional development.

Professionals in doctoral education are often the main drivers in bringing these programmes forward and face particular challenges in their design, development, advertisement and organization.

With this two and a half day PRIDE training on “Professionalizing Transferable Skills Programmes”, you will have the opportunity to learn from the experience of professionals who have been leading and running transferable skills programmes for many years. The setting of the workshop will also allow you to exchange and network with your peers from all over Europe.

The training programme will include a mixture of presentations, case studies, as well as interactive activities and discussions with experts. With this diversity of topics and training methods, the format also serves as an opportunity for participants to learn and share ideas for new training content and methods for their programmes.

The following topics will be addressed:

- **Establishing a transferable skills programme:**
 - What do we mean by transferable skills?
 - How to set up and run a good, solid transferable skills program for doctoral candidates?
 - Choosing the topics, the trainers, the formats
- **Managing a transferable skills programme:**
 - Administrative, financial and logistical aspects
 - Evaluating a transferable skills programme
 - Should transferable skills training be made mandatory, or not?
- **Measuring and communicating the impact:**
 - The impact of training workshops on doctoral candidates’ skills development and employment
 - The role and use of Competence Frameworks for Researchers
 - Promoting a transferable skills programme within one’s institution: key actors, key themes
- **Current issues in transferable skills training:**
 - Ethics and research integrity
 - Wellness, stress management
 - Equality, diversity and inclusion
 - Open Access and Open Science