

Active job-hunting for Materials Scientists



Dr Abby Evans
Head of Careers Team
University of Oxford Careers Service

www.careers.ox.ac.uk

Today's session



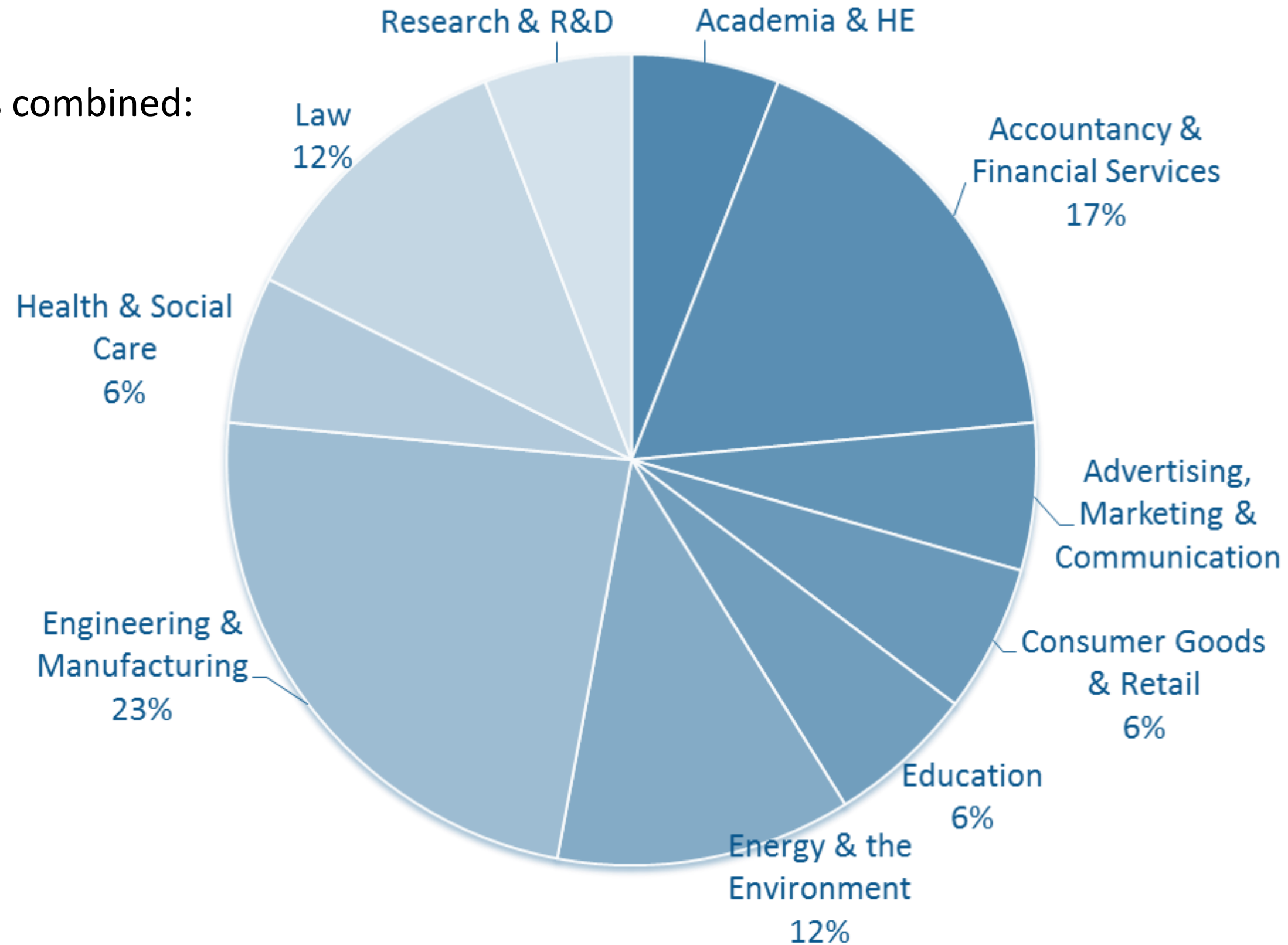
- What do Materials graduates do?
- Making career decisions
- Job search strategies
- Making the most of Michaelmas Term
- Resources
- Questions



Destinations of Material Scientists (MEng)



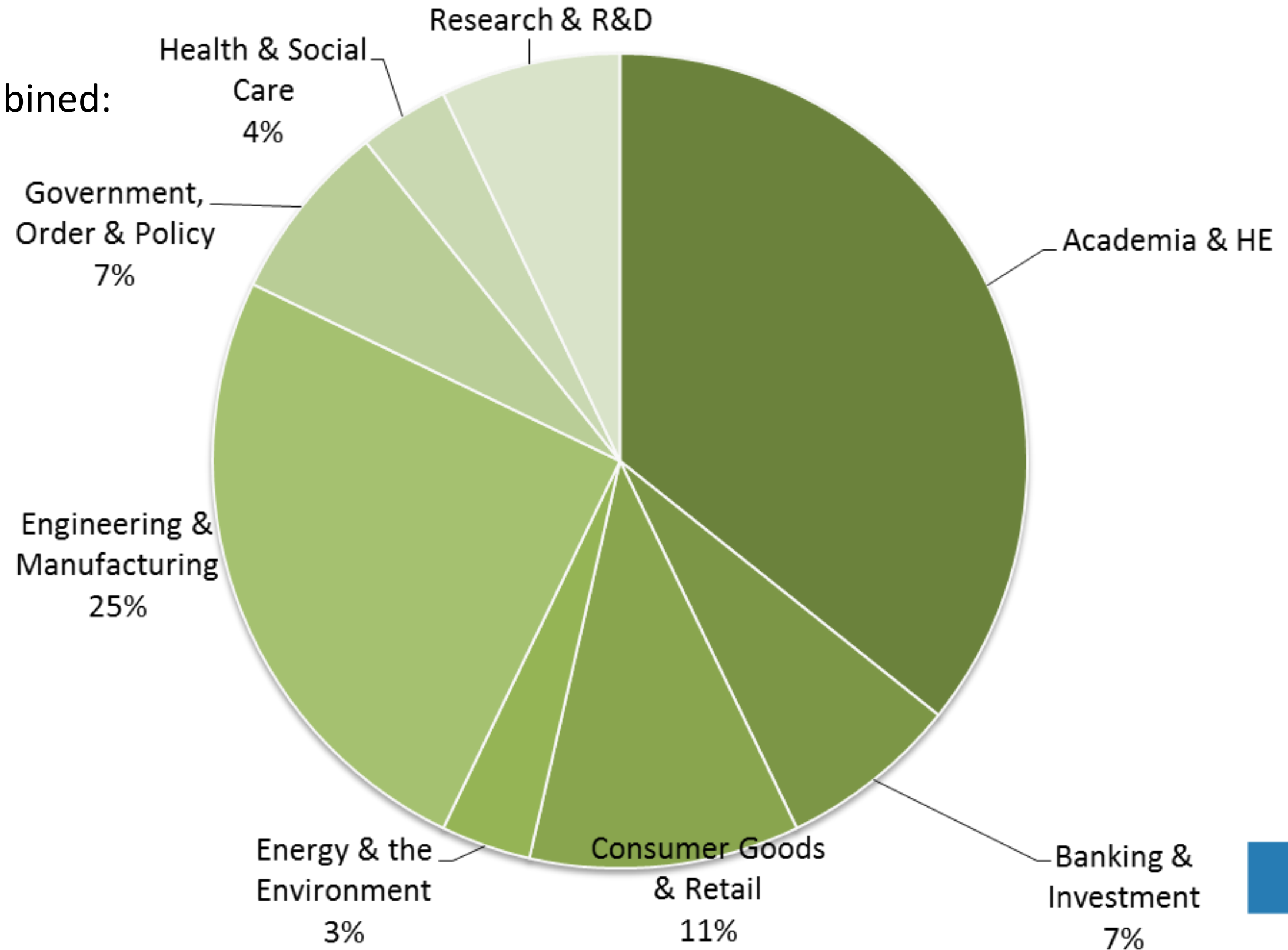
Work sectors for last five years combined:



Destinations of Material Scientists (DPhil)



Work sectors for last five years combined:



Almost 2000 people studied Materials Science at Oxford are on Linked In www.linkedin.com/school/oxforduni/people/



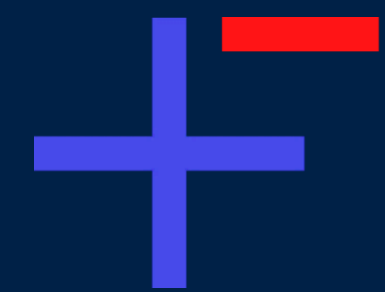
Most common employers

- University of Oxford
- Imperial College London
- University of Cambridge
- Alloyed
- UK Atomic Energy Authority
- The Faraday Institution
- UCL
- Rolls-Royce
- University of Bristol
- Dehns
- Johnson Matthey
- Amentum
- LEK Consulting

Alloyed



UK Atomic Energy Authority



THE FARADAY INSTITUTION

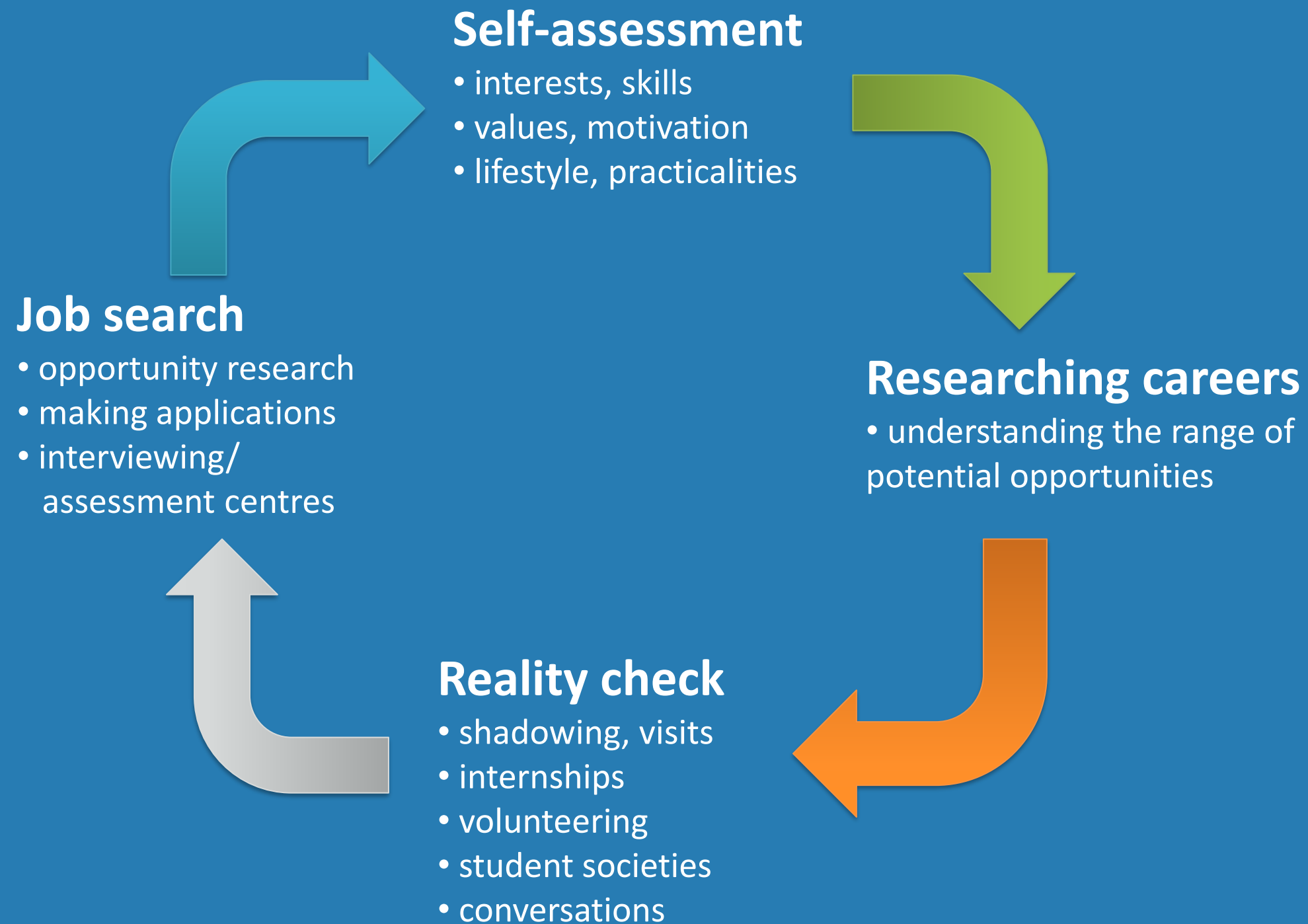


Johnson Matthey
Inspiring science, enhancing life

amentum



An approach to planning your career



Planned happenstance



Progress in your career is not always the result of carefully calculated strategies.

Turn “chance” events into productive opportunities

- Explore things you are curious about
- Be flexible
- Be optimistic
- Connect and ask questions



Inspiration and information

...from people working in sectors you could be interested in.



- **Alumni:**
Linked In Oxford University
Oxford Materials alumni; Oxford Alumni Community;
college networks...
- **Speakers at seminars:**
Department talks; student societies; careers talks...
listings at <https://talks.ox.ac.uk/> and for materials at
<https://www.materials.ox.ac.uk/news/colloquia.html>
- **Tutors, lecturers, researchers**
- **Careers fairs and company presentations**
- **Friends, family, other personal networks**
- **Case studies:** Careers stories (vitae.ac.uk); Prospects (prospects.ac.uk); Science Careers (sciencecareers.sciencemag.org/career_magazine/career_profiles); professional institutes; employer websites.





Careers events **TERM PLANNER**

Explore the schedule of online and in-person career and employability events that are taking place this term.

www.careers.ox.ac.uk/term-planner



Watch out for early deadlines...



Check out how recruitment works in sectors you are interested in www.careers.ox.ac.uk/sectors-and-occupations and see how applying for further study (and funding) works at www.careers.ox.ac.uk/further-study



Home > Explore Careers > Sectors and Occupations > Management Consultancy

- Sectors and Occupations
- Academia and Higher Education
- Accountancy
- Acting
- Actuarial Profession
- Advertising
- Armed Forces and Uniformed Services
- Culture and Heritage
- Banking and Investment
- Barristers
- Business and Management
- Careers with Social Impact

Management Consultancy

Management consulting firms provide a broad range of services, advising and supporting client organisations across a variety of sectors.

What do management consultants do?

Clients may bring in a management consultant for specialist knowledge and advice on a range of consulting engagements including:

- Review a business's position
- Maximise growth, increase profitability
- Improve business performance
- Identify and advise on potential opportunities
- Develop and support a change programme
- Plan and deliver a large-scale project

Typical tasks for management consultants include:

Science R&D

Many scientists are drawn towards using their subject directly in a hands-on scientific role

Scientific research and development (R&D) takes place in university departments, in large companies, in SMEs and start-ups, in government departments and agencies, in research institutes funded by charities or research councils, and in hospitals. You could be doing fundamental research, developing the future technologies, making scientific ideas a commercially viable reality, developing and refining manufacturing processes, or innovating medical solutions. The possibilities are endless.

Many, but not all, scientific R&D roles require a PhD. For information about applying for a PhD, or a research-based masters course please see the information on [postgraduate study](#).

See also [Pharmaceuticals and Biotechnology](#), [Sustainability and the Environment](#), [Energy, Technology, Data, Machine Learning & AI](#), and [Engineering](#). Research roles in universities are covered in [Academia and Higher Education](#). For roles in science outside the research lab see [Science Alternatives](#).

Looking for more?

Check the CareerConnect platform for all our upcoming events and opportunities, book appointments, jobs and internships, and more.

[Login to CareerConnect](#)

Recommended links



Higher Education

Academia and Higher Education

There are over 100 universities in the UK. Universities are usually among the largest employers in the country.



Technology, Machine Learning, and AI

Tech: IT, Data, Machine Learning, and AI

The tech sector is a dynamic and rapidly expanding field offering a wide range of career opportunities for those with a deep interest in technology

Traditionally, the technology sector was divided into hardware and software roles, primarily within IT services and telecommunications. Today, driven by rapid developments and the widespread use of technology, the tech landscape has expanded significantly.

It now includes a diverse array of job opportunities and roles that are not only limited to technology-centric companies (e.g. big tech firms or tech startups) but also include technical roles in many other organisations that use technology to support their core activities (e.g. a bank, large supermarket or healthcare organisation). For instance, banks employ software engineers to maintain their online banking platforms, healthcare organisations hire data analysts to process patient data, and government

Looking for more?

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[Login to CareerConnect](#)



CAREERS FAIRS 2024



www.careers.ox.ac.uk/mt-fairs

Examination Schools

Finance and Management Consultancy Fair

Friday 11 October, 12:00-16:00

Oxford University Careers Fair: *The fair for all sectors*

Saturday 12 October, 10:30-13:30

Law Fair

Saturday 12 October, 10:30-13:30

Science, Engineering & Technology Fair

Saturday 26 October, 10:30-13:30

Careers in Computing

Thursday 31 October, 15:00-17:30

Jobs for Mathematicians

Tuesday 19 November, 16:00-18:00

Maths Institute



SCIENCE, ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY FAIR 2024



Saturday 26 October
10:30-13:30



Examination Schools
OX1 4BG

Find out about the career options available in a variety of technical areas with organisations ranging from leading global companies to specialist technology firms.



www.careers.ox.ac.uk/set

2K Games Dublin
 Aligned AI
 Alloyed
 Amentum
 Archangel Aerospace Group
 Aurora Energy Research
 Autodesk
 Automation Software Consultants & AppFox Software Development

 Ayming UK
 Balyasny Asset Management
 Carpmaels & Ransford LLP
 Chartwell Consulting
 Cisco
 Costello Medical Consulting
 D Young & Co LLP
 Da Vinci
 DeciBio Consulting
 Dynisma Ltd
 EIP
 ELM Company

Energus
 Fast Stream Civil Service
 Five Rings
 Frazer-Nash Consultancy
 G-Research
 GAC International Co., Ltd
 Genomics plc
 Ghyston
 Goodnotes
 Hong Kong Productivity Council
 IMC Trading
 Infosys Ltd
 ION Group
 IPG Health Medical Communications
 J A Kemp
 KAUST
 Kilburn & Strode LLP
 MathWorks
 Mathys & Squire LLP
 National Nuclear Laboratory (NNL)
 NewOrbit Space Ltd
 Newton
 Novo Nordisk A/S

Optiver
 Oxford Alpha Fund
 Oxford Artificial Intelligence Society
 Oxford Sigma Ltd
 PE Limited
 Precision Bridge
 Procter & Gamble
 QRT
 QuantSpark
 Revolut
 Ritchie + Daffin
 Scitaris
 Sensata Technologies
 Softwire
 Susquehanna International Group
 Sysmex Corporation
 The Phoenix Partnership
 The Rosalind Franklin Institute
 THG
 TNG Technology Consulting
 TTP plc
 UKAEA
 Viridien Group



SCIENCE, ENGINEERING & TECHNOLOGY FAIR 2024

 Saturday 26 October 10:30-13:30
  Examination Schools OX1 4BG

Find out about the career options available in a variety of technical areas with organisations ranging from leading global companies to specialist technology firms.

www.careers.ox.ac.uk/set

70+ employers
Don't forget your Bod Card!

Pre-fair talks:
 10:00 Finding Sci&Tech Internships
 09:45 Researchers@the SET fair
 10:00 Softwire presentation

Vortexa
 Waymont Consulting Ltd
 Williams Racing
 Wincent
 Worldpay



Careers Fairs



Benefits

- Time efficient way to interact with multiple employers
- Helps you explore the sector
- Allows you to differentiate between firms and roles
- Helps you develop your application strategy
- Gives you an advantage in the application process

Preparation

- Do your homework on the published list of attendees (online fair booklet) or at least have a quick look first!
- Have a plan of how to use your time (if you are early stage “exploration” can be the plan!)
- Be open minded and flexible – you may be surprised at what you find (remember these companies pay to join these events)
- Bring pertinent questions – not just what’s on their website already



Gradcracker webinars



Upcoming webinars

OCTOBER

- Caterpillar
- AECOM
- McLaren

November

- RAF
- Cummins
- GallifordTry
- DNV
- Atkins Realis

December

- MathWorks
- Hymans Robertson

January

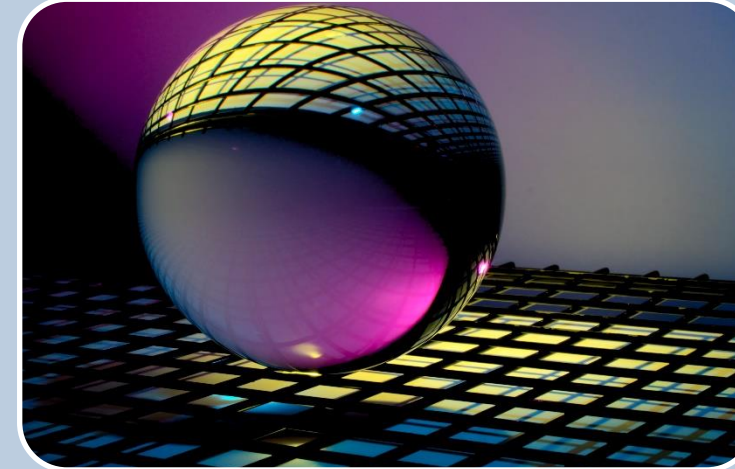
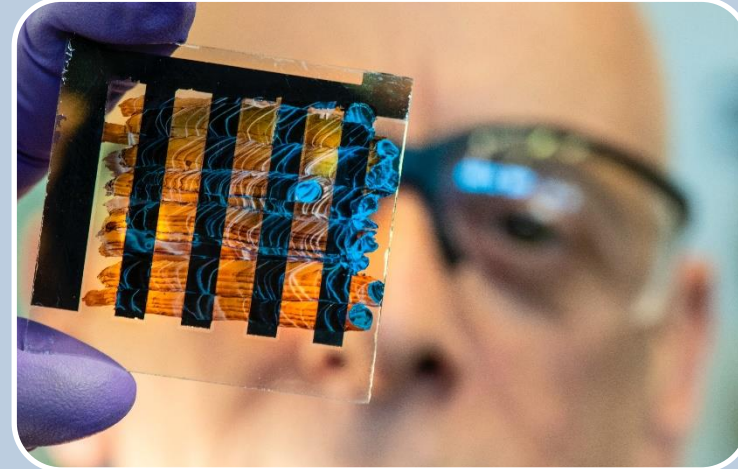
- Collins Aerospace
- CERN
- Mace
- Experian

www.gradcracker.com/webinars/upcoming

Previous webinars (watch them online)

ABB Admiral Amazon Amey Arm Arup Aston Martin Formula One Atkins BAE Systems BBC BT Babcock CERN CGG CGI Centrica Colas Rail Cummins Cundall Edwards Emerson Essity Experian Frazer-Nash Consultancy Fujitsu GSK Galliford Try Herbert Smith Freehills INEOS ITV Technology Institute of Physics Jacobs Johnson Matthey KPMG Lloyds Banking Group London Stock Exchange Group MBDA Martin-Baker Mewburn Ellis LLP Mitsubishi Chemical Morgan Stanley Network Rail Newton Openreach QinetiQ Renishaw Reply Roche Royal Air Force SSE Science & Technology Facilities Council Sellafield Ltd Severn Trent Siemens Taylor Wessing The Mercedes-AMG PETRONAS Formula One Team Toyota Transport for London WSP Zurich

Developing a job search strategy



Graduate Schemes

Stand-alone jobs

Academic & research vacancies

Speculative applications

Graduate schemes



Most common in:

- Professions which require a professional qualification gained through training
- Sectors dominated by large organisations
- Professions which require you to accumulate technical knowledge

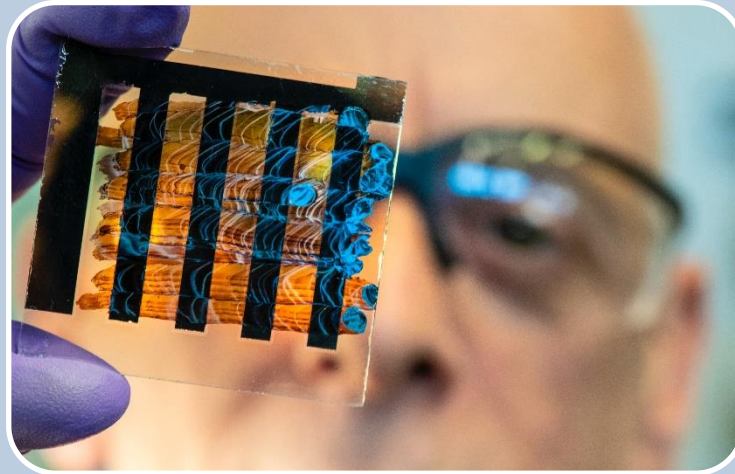
Finding them:

- Publications such as [The Guardian 300](#) or [The Times 100](#)
- Our [career fairs](#), particularly those in Michaelmas term.
- [The Oxford Guide to Careers](#)
- Careers Service [sector overviews](#)
- Employer presentations The websites of individual organisations.
- [LinkedIn Jobs](#)

When to search

- One year ahead

Stand-alone jobs



The most common type of job

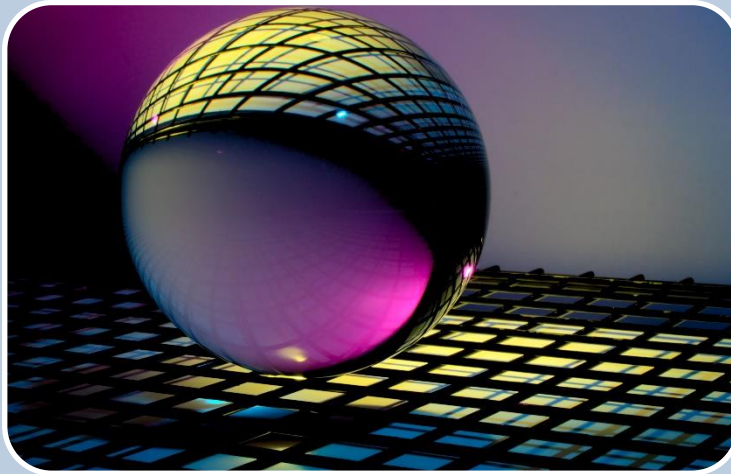
Finding them:

- [CareerConnect](#) – vacancy database for Oxford students, alumni and research staff.
- National jobs boards aimed at graduates, such as [Prospects](#) and [TARGETjobs](#), [Joblift](#) and [Adzuna](#) or apps such as [Debut](#).
- Sites for specific sectors, such as [Jobs.ac.uk](#) (for jobs in universities), [W4MP](#) (for the public and third sectors) or [Work in Startups](#).
- Use the relevant [sector pages](#) of our website for detailed job hunting tips
- National newspapers often have job databases on their websites.
- The websites of individual organisations of interest.

When to search

- A few months ahead

Academic & Research vacancies, Further study



Key vacancy sources:

- [Jobs.ac.uk](https://www.jobs.ac.uk)
- [Higher Ed Jobs](https://www.higheredjobs.com)
- [QS Academic International Mobility](https://www.qs.academicinternationalmobility.com) international positions and advice on building your academic career abroad.

Other UK sources:

- [Times Higher Education Supplement](https://www.timeshighereducation.com), [Nature](https://www.nature.com) and [New Scientist](https://www.newscientist.com)

Funding Opportunities

[Research Professional](#) — Database of funding opportunities which the University subscribes to.

[Funding for Early Career Researchers](#) — Funding opportunities aimed particularly at postgraduate researchers and early-stage postdoctoral researchers.

[UK Research and Innovation](#) (UKRI) — Portal for all the UK Research Councils. Check for scholarships, awards and some jobs.

Further study www.careers.ox.ac.uk/further-study

Speculative applications



- Careful targeting
- Research the role, organisation and sector and demonstrate your understanding in your letter.
- Clearly and quickly establish what you want and why. Be clear about what you would be interested in, but don't close any doors!
- Research is key!



Creating effective applications



LOTS of help available for this:

- Advice and info online
- CV/applications/interview talks
- Videos
www.youtube.com/user/OxfordCareersService
- 1:1 feedback from a Careers Adviser

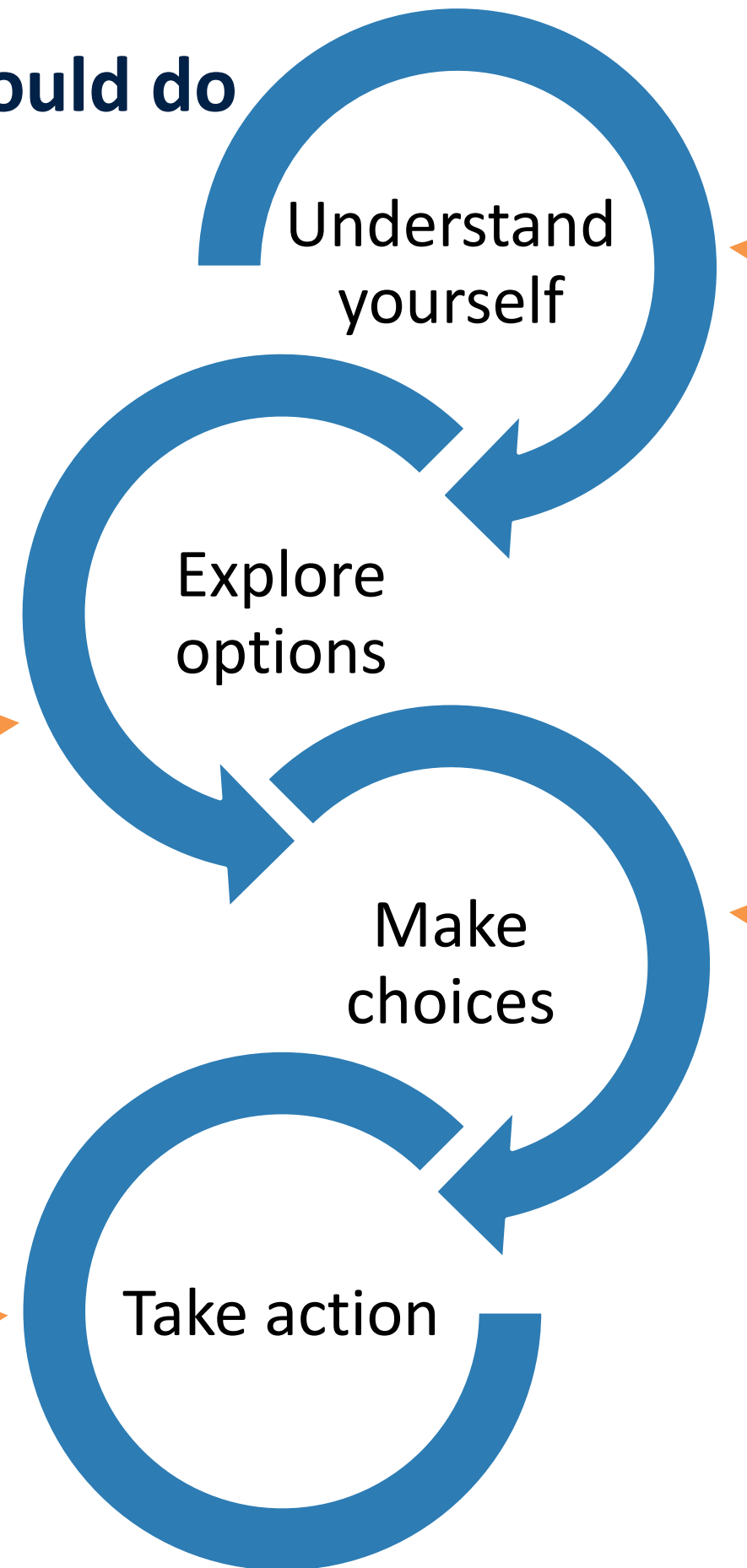
Also – support preparing for psychometric tests, and further study applications

A few tips

- 4-6 carefully researched, tailored applications generally better than many non-tailored ones
- CV sets out the **EVIDENCE** you have what they are looking for
- **COVER LETTER** sets out your motivation and expands on relevant CV highlights

Back to you....

A few examples of things you could do



Try **Career Weaver** to help you to identify your interests, values, strengths, motivations, preferences

www.careers.ox.ac.uk/career-weaver#/

Reality check via an **internship** or other insight activity

www.careers.ox.ac.uk/internships#/

Weigh up your options using our handy **decision-making tools**

www.careers.ox.ac.uk/how-to-make-a-careers-decision#/

• Explore over **40 sectors** and occupations in briefings written by our expert Careers Advisers
www.careers.ox.ac.uk/sectors-and-occupations

• **Alumni career paths** via Linked In
www.linkedin.com/school/oxforduni/people/

• Put together an effective CV and other application materials
www.careers.ox.ac.uk/writing-applications#/

• Hone your job-search strategy
www.careers.ox.ac.uk/job-search-strategies#/

• Prepare for interview – read our advice or attend a workshop



One-to-one support

From Oxford University Careers Advisers



- Book appointments when you need them
- Get feedback on your CV and cover letter, explore career paths, discuss further study options, and more
- Health- and disability-related careers support
- See our specialisms and how to book at www.careers.ox.ac.uk/see-careers-adviser



Jonathan Black



Abby Evans



Anne Wolfes



Callum Buchanan



Chris Jeffs



Claire Chesworth



Damilola Odimayo



Josephine Allen



Julia Sadler



Mike Moss



Niamh Walsh



Susan Black

Current students: Programmes & internships are still available to you



The Oxford Strategy Challenge

- Team-based hackathon-inspired consultancy challenge



Insight into... Programmes

- ...strategy & management
- ...publishing
- ...medicine
- ...pharmaceuticals/biotech
- ...academia



Microinternship programme

- 2-5 days during vacations
- Variety of sectors and project types

Summer internship programme

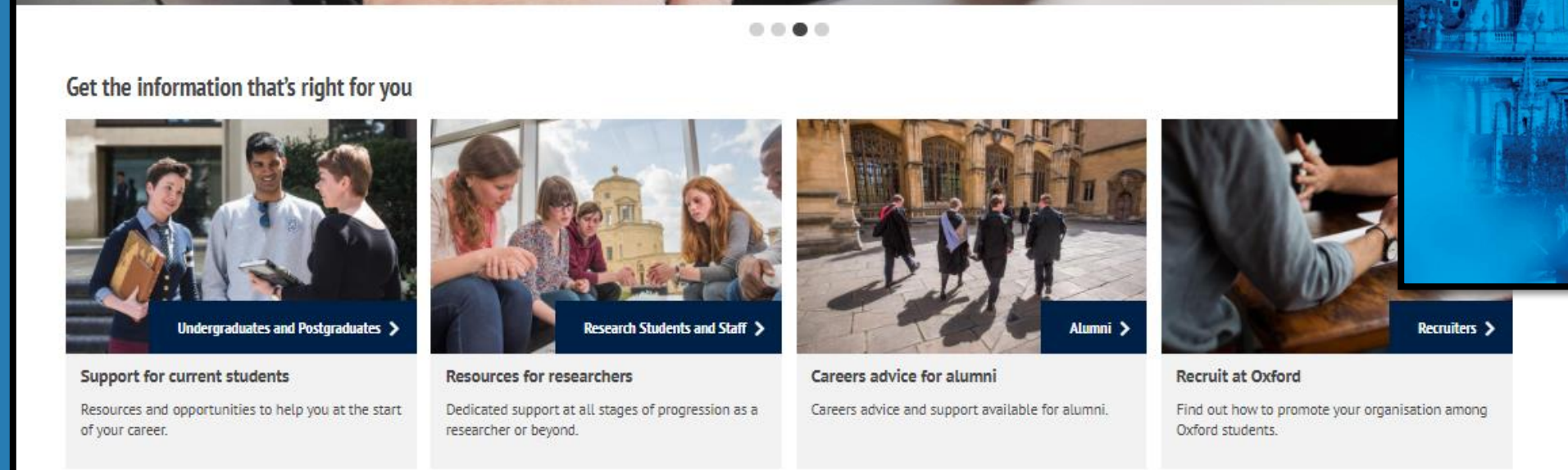
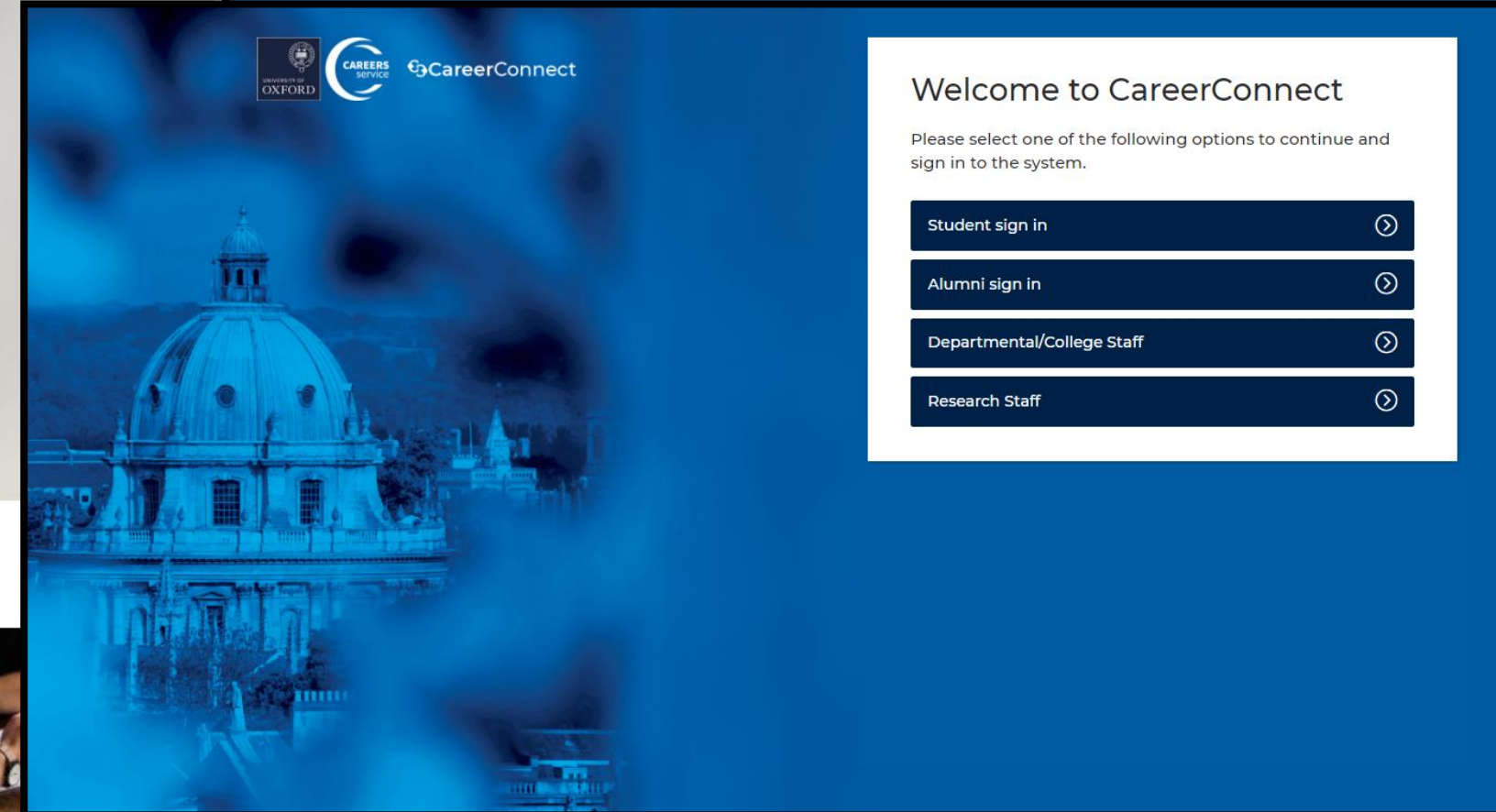
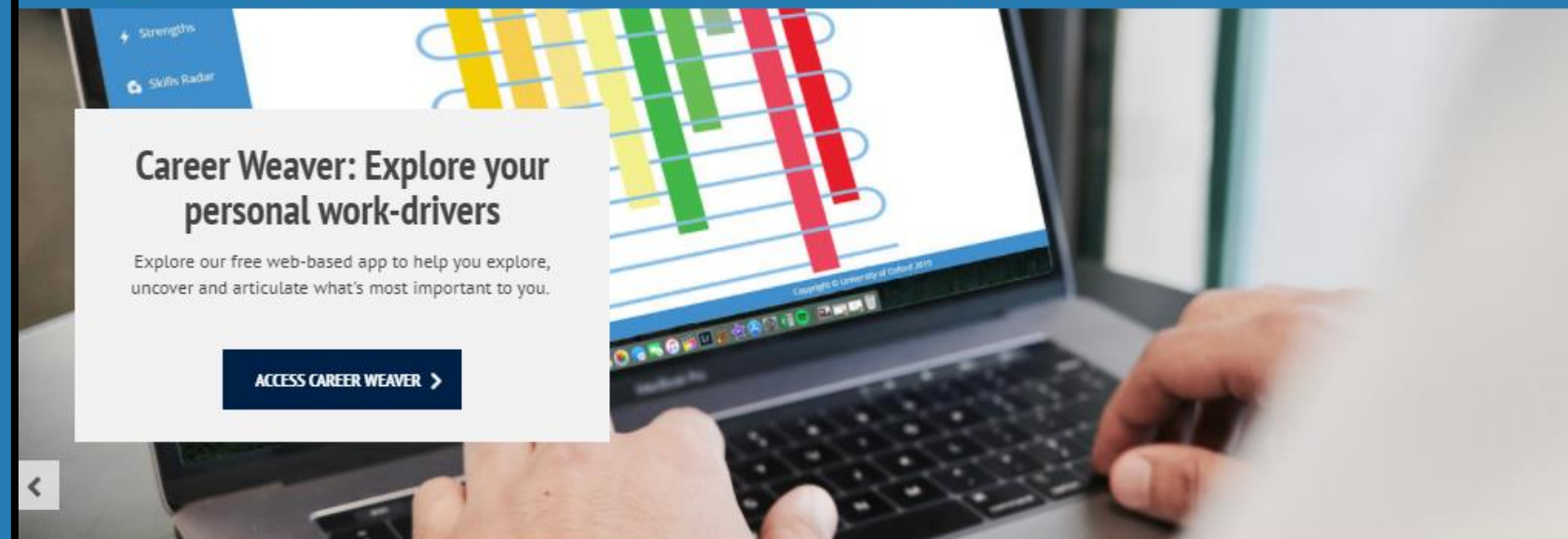
- 2-12 weeks in summer vacation
- Defined project, financial support
- Global opportunities in diverse sectors



More to explore online



www.careers.ox.ac.uk



Learn about your sector of interest!
The Sectors and Occupations section on our website provides useful guides to a wide variety of industries and professions. Each careers briefing includes an overview of the sector, the skills and experience you may need, the process of getting a job in that particular field, and suggests a variety of resources.

