

EMBL Conference:
Lifelong Learning in the Biomedical Sciences
Heidelberg, 5–7 July 2016

MEETING ABSTRACT

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Returning to academia after a career in big Pharma

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Professor Neil Carragher graduated from the University of Aberdeen, Scotland UK in 1992 with a B.Sc. Honours degree in the subject of "Cell and Immunobiology". He then took up a position within industry at the Yamanouchi Research Institute (now Astellas Pharma Inc.), Oxford, England, UK, where he also gained his PhD. He then held consecutive academic postdoctoral positions within the Department of Pathology, University of Washington, Seattle, USA and at the Beatson Institute for Cancer Research, Glasgow, Scotland UK. In 2004 Neil returned to the pharmaceutical industry as Principal Scientist with the Advanced Science and Technology Laboratory at AstraZeneca where he pioneered early multiparametric high-content phenotypic screening approaches. In 2010 he once again made the career switch from industry to academia and took up the post of Principal Investigator of Drug Discovery at the University of Edinburgh where he leads a research group and is currently co-director of the Edinburgh Cancer Discovery Unit and the Edinburgh Phenotypic Assay Centre. In 2015 Neil was appointed the Personal Chair: Professor of Drug Discovery at the University of Edinburgh. He is also Chief Scientific Officer of the Phenomics Discovery initiative [1], a public-private consortium to advance phenotypic screening technologies, and is a founding member of the European Cell-based Assay Interest Group [2] and global RPPA society [3]. In his presentation Neil will describe his career path transitioning between industry and academia, highlighting specific science projects, roles and responsibilities and strategic initiatives he has been involved with. He will also present a personal view of his experience of the cultural and professional differences between academia and industry sharing personal learnings and anecdotes from a career path that crosses the boundaries of academia and industry.

Links

1. <http://npsc.ac.uk/pdi>
2. <http://www.eucai.org>
3. <http://www.nmi.de/rppa2016/>

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