

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

MEETING ABSTRACT

A3.8

A universal competence framework for scientists

Daisy MORTIMER*

Science Council, United Kingdom

The Science Council's professional registration scheme [1] promotes common standards of competence, professional development and ethical practice for scientists across disciplines and sectors. The standards of Registered Science Technician (RSciTech), Registered Scientist (RSci) and Chartered Scientist provide a framework that enables progression, mobility and continuous improvement.

The standards address five broad areas of competence applicable to all professional scientists: Application of Knowledge and Understanding, Personal Responsibility, Interpersonal Skills, Professional Standards and Professionalism.

To remain registered, scientists need to engage in appropriate continuing professional development and abide by a code of conduct. All registered scientists are affiliated to an appropriate professional body which supports their professional development and ethical conduct.

The Science Council works directly with employers to promote the importance of lifelong learning and the value of professional registration. Several employers have already become Science Council Employer Champions [2], demonstrating their organisational commitment to their scientific staff.

Links

1. <http://sciencecouncil.org/scientists-science-technicians/benefits-of-professional-registration/what-is-professional-registration/>
2. <http://sciencecouncil.org/employers/>

*Presenting author e-mail: d.mortimer@sciencecouncil.org