

PhD Vlog 1 Year On Katherine Mackenzie

TIME	SPEAKER	DIALOGUE
0:00:06	Katherine Mackenzie	Hey, back again! Can't believe it's been a year since I did my introduction video and that it's been six months since just before I went to Sheffield because it really feels like not long ago and at the same time that like so much has happened. So I guess since it's my one-year catch-up and my last vlog with www.jobs.ac.uk , I want to talk about finishing up my PhD and...
0:00:36		... how that will go over the next year because I've got a year left, or just over a year. I'm trying to figure that out! What I'm thinking for afterwards and different possibilities that there are for after a PhD and then I'll tie in with a conference that I just got back from in Copenhagen which was really interesting. So pretty much I've got... Yeah, a year and a few months left to finish...
0:01:06		... everything. I've got to write a couple of papers in that time and I've got to write my thesis but I've also got to finish all my experiments and I've got about eight or so projects that I really want to finish. But I'm hoping that if I apply for an extension within time, then maybe I'll have a couple of extra months so that I have the year and a bit to finish up experiments...
0:01:36		... only and then I'll have the time after that to write my thesis so that it's not a kind of time limit for spending all of my pet time writing. So it is kind of scary that it's all going to be over in like a year and a half or something, but I'm really optimistic that things are starting to move forward in my project. So a lot's been happening. I have some new things that are working a lot better...

0:02:06		... than the old stuff I was doing, so it's really positive. But thinking about what to do after a PhD is also really big task. So thinking whether you want to continue in research, do a post-doctoral position, and maybe go towards lectureships or academic training, or you can go into maybe industry or do extra training for stuff like teaching or other... a completely different...
0:02:36		... field if you're really done! But I think with post-doctoral training, you really have to be motivated in your own research but also know what kind of funding sources are available to you and what kind of grants you are eligible for, what foundations would fund your research and it has to be more specific towards a specific niche of research, and you also need to know what labs are working in...
0:03:06		... your field or a similar field, or if you want to change the type of research you're doing, where to go from there. So a lot of the time you'll be working with either people you've worked with before in terms of collaborators, these types of people, or you'll be going to a competitor and then there's maybe conflicts of interests that you have to take into account. So there a lot of different options and I think what I seen from post-doctoral research of people I know is that you have two or three years' ...
0:03:36		... worth of funding and then your contract ends and you have to find a new job and I think personally, I would like some more stability than that. So I think the industrial route can have more security long-term. So in that kind of area, I was at a conference last week in Copenhagen for four days and it was the European Society of...
0:04:06		... Human Genetics conference and it was a really, really nice meeting. We had... the

		disease that I work in, [unclear 0:04:13] disease, we had a satellite meeting for that with collaborators in the consortium and I was able to present my work at that. I also had a poster that I was presenting at the main conference. There were concurrent sessions that you had to kind of choose which lectures you have to go to, I mean there was 3,000 people or more...
0:04:36		... at the conference and then the speakers, there must have been six sessions or so going on at once including then there was corporate satellites with different companies and so these conferences take place at these massive conference centres where there's multiple huge rooms and usually one big exhibition room that then all the posters are setup and you can go and visit those. There's all the different companies that are from...
0:05:06		... sequencing companies to huge companies like Thermovision scientific and prep Rotec and just all these big companies are setup with stalls where they give you free pens and USB sticks to talk to you and try and sell you things and as a PhD student, then I feel like, <i>"Oh well, I can't choose to buy a whole new machine!"</i> But it's interesting to hear the different options that are available...
0:05:36		... for experiments that you're doing and so that kind of stuff I found really interesting. I spoke to a few companies there that hire PhD students or hire people who've done research and have PhDs or people who are coming out of their however many years of post-doctoral research and want a more stable position. And there are loads of options and all over Europe is still a possibility but I'm enjoying life in The Netherlands and...

0:06:06		... now that I've bought an apartment, I feel like it's the place that I want to be. So I'm looking into different options for when I finish and going to these conferences and networking a little more is definitely something I would recommend you doing if you are in your PhD. So wish me luck for finishing up everything! So if there's anything that wasn't mentioned in my videos...
0:06:36		... that you want to know about The Netherlands or about getting your PhD in The Netherlands or just anything else, leave a comment, get in touch and I'll try my best to answer your questions and otherwise, thanks for listening to my videos and see you around.

END OF TRANSCRIPT