

The professional profile of PhD-holders

Alexandre Haller

R&D engineer in molecular biology

alexandre.hallerpro@hotmail.com

Core business

PHASE 1 Skill development

*Sets his professional goals to be ambitious yet realistic.
Identifies and develops means to enhance his employability throughout his career; manages his professional development.
Broadens and upgrades his skillset, personal qualities and achievements.
Uses his networks to expand his scope of competence.
Knows how to transfer his expertise to other fields of activity.
Realizes the necessarily international dimension of his career path.
Accepts input from a mentor or coach to benefit his professional development.*

PHASE 2 Evaluation

*Knows how to regularly evaluate the progress, impact and outcomes of his staff's activities.
Takes part in evaluating both internal and external projects.
Is able to evaluate hypotheses and concepts lying beyond his field of expertise.
Encourages his staff to take ownership of the evaluation process.*

PHASE 1 Information management

*Knows how to review the state of the art (SOTA) in a scientific topic.
Makes efficient use of information-gathering methods, identifies pertinent resources, particularly bibliographic resources.
Masters web-based research (e.g., bibliographic databases, patent databases)
Knows how to judge the pertinence of information, critique sources and check source reliability.
Designs and implements information-gathering and management systems using suitable technology.
Addresses issues relating to the security and life cycle of data.
Seeks out support from experts in information and data management.*

PHASE 2 Expertise and methods

*Is familiar with recent progress in fields related to his own.
Is able to engage in dialogue and collaboration with experts in other disciplines or fields of activity.
Takes ownership of new research methods and techniques.
Is able to document and evaluate his activities using statistical methods where applicable.
Can formulate complex problems that correspond to new challenges.
Is able to develop arguments in support of new projects.
Knows how to adapt his arguments to his audience.
Advises and assists his staff in making appropriate use of investigative methods, improving their performance and enhancing their skills.*

Personal and relational qualities

PHASE 2 Communication

Adapts his register to communicate with experts in other fields at both the national and international levels.
Masters communication techniques for various contexts and media.
Communicates effectively when addressing a diverse and lay audience.
Knows how to address a community of professionals.
Educates and trains his staff in the use of digital communication technologies.
Is able to work and lead a group in at least English and one other world language.

PHASE 1 Collaboration

Develops and maintains cooperative networks.
Knows how to build a professional network for his own and the company's benefit.
Is considered an authority in his field of expertise.
Is able to envisage his work in a partnership framework; evaluates the benefits and limitations of a partnership and identifies shared and conflicting interests.

PHASE 2 Analysis, synthesis and critical thinking

Knows how to apply his analyzing and synthesizing abilities to new fields.
Takes ownership of new analytical methods.
Has a novel and independent way of thinking and makes significant contributions.
Questions "business-as-usual" scenarios in his activity.
Advises his staff to help them develop their own capacities of analysis and synthesis.
Stimulates critical thinking among his peers and his staff.

PHASE 2 Commitment

Can picture himself in other contexts; applies his commitment and motivation to other activities and fields of expertise.
Perseveres in his undertakings and projects; paves the way for other staff and supports them.
Inspires the enthusiasm and commitment of his staff.

PHASE 2 Integrity

Builds staff awareness of the need for responsible conduct of research.
Advises his peers and staff concerning matters of respect, confidentiality, anonymity and intellectual property.

PHASE 1 Balance

Is aware of his aptitudes, knows how to take advantage of them and demonstrate them.
Expresses himself relevantly, confidently and didactically.
Recognizes the limits of his knowledge, skills and expertise, and knows where to find support when needed.
Is able to consider his practices and experience as part of the bigger picture.
Develops his strengths and knows how to correct his weaknesses by seeking the opinion of others.
Is aware of the need to reconcile career and personal life.
Develops mechanisms to cope with pressure and seeks support when needed.

Business management and value creation

PHASE 2 Listening and empathy

*Knows how to engage in active listening in various situations.
Is careful to take his contacts' needs and frame of reference into account.
Expresses gratitude regularly.
Takes the needs of his staff into consideration, is sensitive to signs of stress and able to provide support and advice when needed.*

PHASE 1 Project management

*Plans projects to meet goals in accordance with strategy and priorities, and taking quality, deadline and budget constraints into account.
Knows how to write specifications.
Is accountable for resources used and for meeting the deadlines and quality requirements of the deliverable.
Reacts efficiently and appropriately to change and unforeseen events.
Conducts his project within a framework of auditing and evaluation, deploying the appropriate systems.*

PHASE 2 Managing change

*Is able to get people to see the need for change.
Defines objectives and rallies support for them.
Creates momentum and builds alliances.
Achieves initial results rapidly.
Understands the possible causes of the failure of a change plan.*

PHASE 1 Managing risks

*Can determine the risks related to his project and the means for controlling them.
Is aware that technological and financial risks increase during the innovation process.
Understands the concept of corporate social responsibility.*

PHASE 3 Decision-making

*Is able to instigate and control major change.
Knows how to make decisions in an unstable and uncertain environment taking all technical, financial, human, organizational, political and other factors into account.*

PHASE 1 Obtaining and managing funding

*Manages his own funding and is comfortable in discussions with budget, financial and economic decision-makers.
Understands the funding process and knows how to determine the profitability of an activity.
Knows how to answer a request for proposals and/or write a grant application.*

PHASE 1 People management

*Has experience with teamwork; knows how to encourage, support and recognize the contributions of each player.
Knows how to be a team player.*

*Is able to win the trust of his peers and his line management.
Can report on his activities.
Supports his peers when needed and can provide assistance.
Understands human resources policies and management tools such as recruitment, evaluation, remuneration and strategic workforce planning.
Takes safety, social responsibility and labor law requirements into account.
Upholds rules on non-discrimination and equal opportunity among employees.*

PHASE 1 Producing results

*Knows how to transform ideas into innovations.
Quickly deploys prototype and test phases; involves internal and external customers in these phases.
Learns the lessons of the initial tests.
Understands the policies and processes involved in publishing and exploiting research outcomes in his entity.
Is able to determine the most appropriate means of exploiting his results (e.g., patent, publication).*

PHASE 1 Intellectual and industrial property

*Has basic knowledge of the rules of intellectual/industrial property and copyright as they apply to his own activities.
Understands the advantages and drawbacks of filing a patent.
Is aware of the importance of controlling the release of information.*

Strategy and Leadership

PHASE 2 Strategy

*Observes his environment; recognizes discontinuities and micro-trends; detects weak signals.
Develops his own approach and shapes his understanding of the topic.
Encourages brainstorming and draws conclusions relevant to his area of activity.
Regularly produces documents of a forward-looking and strategic nature.
Makes sure that his activities contribute to the company's strategy and attainment of its objectives, and to the enrichment of his organization or sector of activity.
Is familiar with various innovation strategies.
Ensures that his staff is aware of and understands their environment and the importance of strategy.*

PHASE 1 Leadership

*Exercises leadership in connection with a project of which he is in charge.
Knows how to be persuasive and enlist support for a project
.Mobilizes skills for a project of which he is not in charge; manages human resources even when people do not officially report to him.
Builds alliances.
Establishes relationships based on trust.*