

# The professional profile of PhD-holders

**Lucienne Nouchikian**

## Research Scientist (biotech or pharma industry)

Over 6 years of experience in protein characterization using analytical biochemistry and mass spectrometry methods. Passionate about making science collaborative and integrative.

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### Core business

#### **PHASE 2 Skill development**

During my studies, I have always looked at how to continue to advance my skills and gain new ones that will be beneficial in my field and future job prospects. Thus each stage of my studies has explored new projects and techniques. I have also relied on the expertise of collaborators in other fields to work with them on an interdisciplinary project. I have been able to master the techniques that I have learned so far as to train students and help them with their own projects.

*Takes a critical look at his skills and experience and regularly fine-tunes his career goals.  
Knows how to develop new skills to keep step with changing knowledge and needs.  
Relies on advice from competent professionals (coaching) or experienced staff and takes their opinions into account; uses his networks to manage his career.  
Is able to evolve gradually from technical expertise to managerial expertise.  
Helps his staff develop their skills and networks and assists them in achieving career development goals.*

#### **PHASE 1 Evaluation**

Publishing the work that I have completed in both my Master's and PhD has made me able to critically evaluate my results against those already published in the field and how they compare and how they can add extra value. Presenting my work at conferences and to collaborators allowed critical discussion of both my results and theirs, how they come together, and evaluate if they support the same conclusions or not.

*Evaluates the value of various documents concerning his field of expertise.  
Is able to judge his own results in terms of both quality and added value.  
Is willing to expose ideas to a critical audience; takes others' opinions of his work into account.  
Is willing to evaluate the work of other contributors and provides reasoned, realistic judgments of others' work.*

#### **PHASE 1 Information management**

Writing an informative introduction chapter on the topic of the thesis required to dig deep into the literature of the topic and cross-referencing the data that has already been published to ensure it is either still relevant or to determine if the results supported the conclusions.

*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**

my projects in my PhD involved lots of method development to improve on the protocol, data analysis, and results obtained. The methods were also applied to other systems from collaborators to both help them with their projects and to show the feasibility and applicability of the developed methods in my PhD. This involved understanding what I needed to improve upon and how and how it can benefit the collaborators and how it can be used in their projects. This led to two successful interdisciplinary projects where novel proteins and structures were discovered.

*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**

I have presented at many national and international conferences with audiences that have different levels of expertise on my subject area. Thus I have had to be able to adapt the presentation of my topic depending on the audience and time of presentation. I have also published small and engaging communications on social media for a more public audience. I have also written and presented project proposals in both French and English.

*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**

I have had many collaboration projects both cross-country and international. I have been able to create and maintain a network of people within the domain of mass spectrometry but also in other interdisciplinary areas through networking events.

*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.*

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