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Early Stage Researchers' Interest in COST

The COST Office participated to the GRAD skills "Research Futures 2008" Conference which took place 30 May 2008 at St. Andrews University, Scotland.

This one-day event attracted more than 250 early stage researchers (PhD students and post-doctoral fellows) with various speakers including leading policy advisors, industrial employers, research funders, knowledge transfer experts and senior academics.

The UKRC was represented by a keynote speaker Prof Ian Diamond, Chief Executive, ESRC. Dr Martin Grabert, Director of the COST Office, was invited to present the second keynote speech, highlighting the opportunities for early stage researchers at COST. The audience was very receptive and in the ensuing discussions several ideas for COST Action proposals were identified.

"It is a great experience to see so many bright and talented people developing their career plans in science," commented Dr. Grabert after the meeting. "Developments at a European level, such as the European Charter for Researchers and the Code of Conduct for the Recruitment of Researchers, are important assets to support young researchers in Europe and ensure the most flexible and all-inclusive approach to pan-European mobility. For this reason, COST encourages all Actions to promote and apply the charter and the code."



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