

## D. PhD Electronic and Electrical Engineering, 2009

### UCL Faculty:

- Engineering

### Previous Role:

- Research Consultant

### Sectors:

- Engineering and Technology
- Consultancy

D. is now retired but previously worked as a Research Consultant in the electronics industry where he consulted on applying mathematical applications to electronics. D. believes electronics firms might help with funding PhDs if the field is specialist and specific enough to that firm's work.

D. undertook and completed his PhD out of his personal interest in the subject and not because his work required it. During his PhD study, D. found that he already had most of the skills required, but the degree demanded a more academic and thorough approach to research.

D. was in the position of being 'more or less fully retired' when he graduated so he did not face the typical challenges one might expect when entering employment for the first time after graduation. He offers this advice to current PhDs entering the academic or non-academic job market, and it is that modesty is important. He says that there can be a tendency to think 'you know it all as you have a doctorate, but you still have much to learn.'

D. believes it is important for those who are considering doing a PhD that they ensure they are fascinated by the subject. D. suggests that those who are unsure reach out to someone in a more senior position who may be able to give them some research work. This may prove useful in seeing whether you struggle with it or give up all together. D. advises that people can return to undertaking a PhD later on if they do not feel inspired yet, or if they would prefer to develop experience in the wider world first.

- Tags: Engineering, Researcher, Technical, Engineering and Technology, Consultancy, Non-Academic