

Knowledge
Transfer
Partnerships

Graduate Case Study

Agriculture/
Biology/
Biotechnology/
Computing/
Design/
Ecommerce/
Engineering/
Food/
Management/
Marketing/
Materials/
Quality/
Science/
SocialScience/

www.ktponline.org.uk/graduates

Associate Profile: Lorenzo Herrero-Davila

Name: Lorenzo Herrero-Davila
Qualifications: BSc and MRes Chemistry
Current Role: Research Associate
Location: North Cave



“I found the whole experience really exciting. I love being able to apply my academic knowledge in a hands-on environment.”

IN MY KTP I...

My KTP was with Brocklesby Limited and the University of York. Brocklesby collects and refines spent cooking oil for conversion into biofuel and animal feed products. The aim of this Partnership was to eliminate the cost of disposal of glycerin, a biodiesel by-product, and to develop new applications, methodologies and products for the material. As a result of the Partnership, glycerin is now sold for use in anaerobic digestion in the production of biomethane, as well as a component of a novel product DENITROL[®], which is used in effluent water treatment. These achievements have generated total sales of £197k/year, £67k/year from anaerobic digestion and £130k/year for DENITROL[®] formulation, to be increased in the next three years up to £975k/year. In addition to the financial benefit, considerable environmental achievements have been delivered by the project.

HIGHLIGHTS OF THE PROJECT WERE...

There was not really one particular highlight for me; I found the whole experience really exciting. I love being able to apply my academic knowledge in a hands-on environment. I found my KTP really rewarding, as I know I have delivered technical, commercial and managerial benefits to both the company and the academic institution, and facilitated knowledge transfer at all these levels. The relationship between both partners is now really strong and they intend to work together on future projects.

THE BEST THING ABOUT BEING A KTP ASSOCIATE IS...

For me, the best thing about being a KTP Associate was getting the opportunity to drive your own work forward and being trusted by both the university and the company to do so. You get the opportunity to experience two very different working environments, academia and industry, and how the two can complement and enhance each other. I also got the opportunity to speak at conferences, such as the 6th Green Chemistry Network, and have my research published in academic journals.

FROM KTP I HAVE LEARNT...

The KTP has been an invaluable opportunity to gain personal development. During the two years, I have undertaken a number of courses, including formal and informal training, which would have been difficult to access without the KTP programme. The unique KTP structure has made it possible for me to move from an academic environment to a commercial environment and develop new analytical techniques and methods.

LIFE AFTER KTP IS...

I am now employed by the company as a Research Associate and I am completing my PhD. I am working on new lines of research which arose from the work carried out in the KTP, such as the development of novel applications of biofuels by-products.

I WILL RECOMMEND KTP BECAUSE...

I will recommend KTP because it is a unique opportunity to develop your career in an exciting and dynamic way!

To turn your career options into great career options visit
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