THE UNIVERSITY of EDINBURGH
School of Physics and Astronomy

Transcript for "Careers – MSc Programmes in HPC" video

MSc in High Performance Computing (HPC)
MSc in High Performance Computing with Data Science (HPC with DS)

Alasdair King: From having done the MSc, to be able to go out into work and confidently be able to go and apply for jobs, and be in situations where you can say, 'I know how that works and I know, I know what to do', because I've learnt that here.

Padraig O Conbhui: What I didn't expect is the experience it would give me in programming and in kind of performance programming. So now whenever I'm actually writing a programme, even for myself, it shapes how I think about structuring my codes.

Raluca Andra: I work in development in Bank of America. Even in my current job I can actually understand how they can do performance much faster, how they can improve that, which was actually great. This was not something I actually thought of when I started the MSc.

Alasdair King: So my background is in computer science. I went from undergraduate straight to the MSc because I was interested in parallel programming. The skills that you have learnt previously can be adapted to the scientific programming that you're doing here.

Raluca Andra: So the MSc helped me find a job because of the technical skills I learned from here, improving codes. Usually when you go to an interview you get asked, 'How would you do this differently?'

Padraig O Conbhui: So what I'm doing at the moment is a PhD in micro magnetics in the Geoscience Department of Edinburgh University, here. So we're using this system called Phoenix that does automatic parallel solutions to find out element equations.
Jia Song: I'm working in a software company and my job is doing some JAVA development and doing some tests in terms of the programme. MSc helped me to get a job. When I went to an interview, the interviewers

are quite interested in my background because it's from HPC, they want to know more about the new talk technology. So it means they want to know more about me.

Alasdair King: So I feel that the MSc has put myself in a good place for the job market, not only in terms of programming skill, in terms of understanding how HPC works, in industry and in academia, and in terms of being able to take that information and take it to other jobs that may not be HPC focused, but are still focused on being able to programme in parallel or do massive things with data.
Even being able to say I can go into some sort of job for computer science and be able to say, 'I have these skills that benefit to your workplace'. So, at the end of the MSc I am hoping to go on to further work, and then maybe sometime I might do a PhD, but we'll see what happens.

Raluca Andra: Making the software faster is part of my job but I do develop other pieces of software for them as well. So, it binds the two together.

Alasdair King: There's plenty of support for going about how to get jobs with the career service, and being able to make an appointment and say, 'This is my CV', how best to show I've worked this, and being able to do mock interviews and resources online to sort of aggregate what kind of jobs you're looking for. If you're confident that you can apply for that job and be able to say that, 'All the things that I've learnt on the MSc I can do that job for you'.

Raluca Andra: Yes, I think HPC is the future. A lot of computations are done on it and it's much faster, which helps a lot of people.

[END OF TRANSCRIPT]

Transcript by McGowan Transcriptions