

Collaborating with industrial partners and sharing conference materials online

A case study of De Montfort University's Professor Geoff Smith

Key Points

- · Geoff has used DMU Figshare to collaborate with industrial partners in the area of pharmaceutical technology.
- Geoff uploads his conference presentations and posters to DMU Figshare to ease the administration burden of sharing with conference attendees and to receive DOIs (Digital Object Identifiers) for citing these outputs.

Geoff Smith is a Professor of Pharmaceutical Process Analytical Technology in the Leicester School of Pharmacy at De Montfort University (DMU). Geoff's public research data is available on dmu.figshare. com and his profile page is available here.

Geoff's research is focused on developing medicines primarily in the laboratory. He works with colleagues to create delivery systems, called dosage form, for drugs such as tablets, creams, ointments, and more. This area of research is called pharmaceutical technology and covers the formulation - what goes into the product - and the manufacturing process of the product.

This research involves collaboration with industrial partners who are trying to resolve issues related to the manufacturing of these drugs. This also results in collaborations with other universities doing tangential research. "It's quite a rich environment to work in," said Geoff. "There are opportunities of funding from companies, grants, new intellectual property, patents, new processes, and more. Because it's so applied, industry tend to take a lot of direct interest in what we're doing. We're doing things they can't do themselves and proposing new standards to the normal procedures within this area of practice."

Geoff has used DMU Figshare for storing and sharing presentations given related to his research, poster submissions for conferences, and documentation of industry collaboration including this figure of an electrical impedance-enabled freeze-drying microscope developed in partnership with DMU LyoGroup and Biopharma Process Systems Ltd.



"Before DMU Figshare, if I wanted to share a copy of a presentation, I'd have to email it to each person who requested it," said Geoff. "Now, I put the DOI of the presentation directly on the slides for immediate access. We also do this for posters presented at conferences. It has meant that attendees can easily access presentations and posters for the conference in one place."

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