

# “Research in Action” Podcast Instructor Guide

Use the following episode description, learning objectives, guiding questions and activity suggestions to more easily include “Research in Action” podcast episodes as a supplemental resource for your course.

# Dr. Ben Hatton on Creativity and Research [00:00-35:15]

Research in Action - Episode 90

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## Podcast and Episode Information

“Research in Action” is a weekly podcast about topics and issues related to research in higher education featuring experts across a range of disciplines.

On this episode of the podcast, the guest is Dr. Ben Hatton, an Assistant Professor in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering, and cross-appointed to the Institute of Biomaterials and Biomedical Engineering (IBBME) at the University of Toronto (UofT). Dr. Hatton is an engineer who obtained his Ph.D. in 2005 from the University of Toronto in the area of nanomaterials synthesis by self-assembly. He has worked extensively on the design, fabrication and properties of nano- and microstructured surfaces, for biomaterial applications, and worked at Harvard University for 5 years (as a postdoc and research associate) before coming to UofT in 2012. Dr. Hatton currently has >40 peer review publications and >50 presentations and conference abstracts, and is focused on investigating the relationships between nanocomposite structure and nanomaterial surface design on bacterial contamination of biomaterial surfaces. The Hatton group works on the synthesis of drug-silica nanomaterials for drug release, non-adhesive and non-fouling biomaterials, and nano/micro scale topography effects on cell binding and surface reactions. Dr. Hatton has over 15 patents (and applications), from his research work at UofT and Harvard University.

*Segment One* [00:00-13:41] - In this segment, Ben shares about what he has learned from research in many different environments.

*Segment Two* [13:42-23:36] - In this segment, Ben shares his favorite strategies for nurturing creativity in research.

*Segment Three* [23:37-35:15] - In this segment, Ben shares additional for nurturing creativity in research.

Show notes and a transcript for this episode can be found at:

<http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/research/podcast/e90/>

## Learning Outcomes

By listening to this episode, students will be able to:

- Provide an example of applying creativity in research
- Discuss the potential benefits of applying creativity in research
- Review strategies for nurturing creativity in research

## Guiding Questions for Listening

- What does Dr. Hatton describe were some of the influencing factors for choosing a PhD program?
- What does Dr. Hatton share are similarities he has observed between the different contexts of research in which he has worked?
- What example does Dr. Hatton share is a way to “support novel research and creativity”?
- According to Dr. Hatton, why is creativity important for researchers?
- What example does Dr. Hatton provide of creativity in research?
- According to Dr. Hatton, what are some strategies to potentially encourage creativity in research?
- What does Dr. Hatton mean by, “sometimes there are interesting things in failure”?
- What does Dr. Hatton suggest may be the benefit of seeking presentations or seminars on topics outside of your research field?

## Possible Activities

- Ask students to visit the show notes for this episode (<http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/research/podcast/e90/>) and look at an additional resource that is linked in connection with this episode. Students can write a short review of that resource to share with their peers.
- Ask students to visit the show notes for this episode (<http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/research/podcast/e90/>) and post an additional resource connected to the content of the episode in the comments section.
- Have students share questions that are raised for them based on the content of this episode. What would they ask Dr. Ben Hatton if they could?

## Suggested Citation (APA, 6th edition)

Linder, K. (Producer/host). (2017, December 18). *Dr. Ben Hatton on Creativity and Research*. [Audio podcast]. Retrieved from <http://ecampus.oregonstate.edu/research/podcast/e90/>

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## Notes

## About the Research in Action Podcast

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“Research in Action” (RIA) is a podcast about topics and issues related to research in higher education featuring experts across a range of disciplines. Episodes are posted weekly and include guest interviews and occasional solo episodes. Guests are from a range of higher education institutions and share their expertise on qualitative, quantitative and mixed methods as well as their personal experiences as researchers, research and writing practices, organizational and productivity strategies, and much more. Some weeks, bonus content will also be posted.

“Research in Action” is hosted by [Dr. Katie Linder](#), research director for Oregon State University Ecampus.

Visit the podcast website to view [show notes and transcripts for each episode](#), explore our [episode guide](#), learn more about how to [contact us](#), or [suggest a future guest or topic](#).

You may subscribe to the [“Research in Action” RSS feed](#) or access the podcast via [iTunes](#), [Soundcloud](#) or [Stitcher](#).

“Research in Action” is also listed on [MERLOT](#).

The “Research in Action” podcast is a resource funded by Oregon State University Ecampus – ranked top ten in the nation for online education two years running by U.S. News & World Report. OSU Ecampus has more than 45 degree programs and more than 1,000 classes online.

## Contact

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