

Collaborative Learning and Integrated Mentoring in the Biosciences

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> Dan Ryan Expy Kennedy Expy

> > 1-4 yrs

Next Exits

Dream Job Exit 284

90 94

PhD

# Career Planning for Mid-Stage PhD Students

- **#1: Intro to Career Planning: Professional Self-Assessments**
- **#2: Exploring Options**
- **#3: Building Relationships**
- **#4: Panel Discussion**

Traci Galbaugh – Associate Director of IBiS; at EV and CH workshops Mike Kennedy – Director of Science in Society; at EV and CH workshops Kate Cosgrove – Senior Compliance Analyst; at EV workshop Jennifer Hobbs – Director of Postdoctoral Affairs; at CH workshop

In today's changing and challenging market for PhD's in the STEM disciplines, it's critical to start planning your career early, because the road to "alternative" and even "traditional" careers are no longer clearly marked out for you. I hope that this series of professional development workshops have helped you to assess your professional skills and interests, and prepared you to explore options and build relationships while you're in grad school, so that you can plan for your career after your PhD. I wish you all the best.

#### Fiske's Career Planning Process:



Action Plan

CV's, applying, networking, interviews

## Focusing

what organizations are a good fit? what do I need to be competitive? who can connect me to these organizations?

## Exploration

what options are out there? what jobs fit my skills? what careers use them? do I prefer to work in business, non-profit, or public sectors?

## Self-Assessment

who am I? what are my interests? my skills? my values? what's my preferred working style? how can I develop my metacognitive skills?

## **Continuing Steps and Take-Home Messages**

- Remember Fiske's 80:10:10 Rule for career advancement:
  - spend 80% of your time on your main research and work
    - spend 10% of your time on your own professional development, e.g. attending workshops and reading books
  - spend 10% of your time on building relationships and networking
  - So, set aside some time each week or month on your own professional development and on building relationships
- Continue in the process for planning your career! Don't wait until the last minute.
  - Continue to assess your professional strengths
  - Continue to explore options
  - Continue to focus your options by building relationships

## **Resources and References:**

- What Color is Your Parachute? by Richard Bolles
  the "bible" of career planning
- NU University Career Services
  - Kamilah McCoy Associate Director and Grad Student Services
    - <u>k-mccoy@northwestern.edu</u>
  - o Kamilah maintains a listserv, where she sends notices of workshops and job announcements
- Professional self-assessments
  - o myIDP
    - http://myidp.sciencecareers.org/
  - Seven Stories exercise
    - <u>https://fiveoclockclub.com/2013/02/exercises-to-identify-the-job-of-your-dreams-start-</u> with-the-seven-stories-exercise/
  - Your 40-Year Vision exercise
    - http://fiveoclockclub.com/1999/02/a-roadmap-for-life-the-forty-year-vision/
  - Myers-Briggs (free version)
    - http://www.humanmetrics.com/
  - Myers-Briggs: *Please Understand Me II* by David Keirsey
  - StrengthsFinder: Strengths Based Leadership by Rath and Conchie
- Exploring Options
  - myIDP website
    - http://myidp.sciencecareers.org/
    - Career Exploration > Read about Careers > Resources
  - Career case studies (UK):
    - <u>http://careers.abpi.org.uk/case-studies/Pages/default.aspx</u>
  - CLIMB pdf handout: Resources for CLIMB Graduate Students
- Building Relationships
  - $\circ$   $\;$  The Informational Interview
    - CLIMB pdf handout
    - article by David Jensen in Science Careers, March 20, 2009
  - $\circ$  The Art of 'the Ask' by Rachel Toor in the Chronicle of Higher Education, 2011

