

What I Thought My Career Progression Should Look Like



Stepwise, pre-planned course to success.

My Career Journey-So Far

Step into new opportunities!

Create a seed fund program and manage participants. Learned Lean Startup, leverage my science & communication skills. Still focused on problems to solve that people want solved.

Become Trusted!

Gained managerial and operation responsibilities. Helping to shape a new course for this program.

What's Next?



Scientific Recruiter.

What does a company scientist do? Skills learned: networking, interviewing, company cultures, startup, identified new interesting problems

Program Manager-CTC.

Managing grants in bureaucratic world. What makes startups successful or not? Questioning, communication.

Biology!

Independence, Discovery, preparation, mentoring, presentation, writing

Academia-No! What next?

Curiosity and desire to solve problems. WEB, mentoring program, Biotech Minority Fellow Program, Consulting, networking, research. Oh, and I need to stay in Wisconsin.



This is Your Journey & That's Super Exciting!



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Winding, uncertain experiences. How to manage?

Lessons Learned

1. Let curiosity drive you. (and make a plan-to the best of your ability)
2. Develop a network to solve problems that intrigue you & that people want solved! (This includes mentors and peers!)
3. Constantly develop new skills through experiences. (few ppl cared that I could PM-they wanted to see it in the context of what they understood and valued)-certificates & internships; now there are new opportunities if you want to explore industry-EX: SBIR funded companies)
4. Your mentor's idea of success may not be yours. (don't be upset if someone poo poos your idea...but don't ignore the value they offer)
5. Take risks, and do good work.
6. Use your education to augment your interests- don't rely on it.

Contact Information

Consider Opportunities with Entrepreneurial Training

Entrepreneurial skills are in high demand and these programs/groups give you a chance to learn & practice.

- www.sbir.gov
- Venturewell.org- Innovation fellows program
- Lean Startup methodology
- NSF I-Corps Program
- Accelerators & local co-working spaces
- Tap into entrepreneurial programs on your campus.
- Take a business class or two!



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