

Life After PhD Part 2



Non-Academic Career Focus

THIS TIME IT'S PERSONNEL*

Agenda!

or how we will convince you to explore beyond academia by the end of this session

Feel free to add anything to the Jamboard at this time, if you haven't already.

1. Review Survey Results - *Values and Tradeoffs*
2. Discuss Article and Videos - *9-5 is scary*
3. Breakout Rooms - *As a PhD. So I'll go into academia. That's how it's done, right?*
4. Class Discussion
5. Jamboard - *Expectations*

Pre-class survey

Dr. Guo compares industry and academia based on 10 characteristics.

Quickly, how do we define these?

Do you agree that these are the most important differences? Did he leave any out?

What do you expect to see in one domain vs. another?

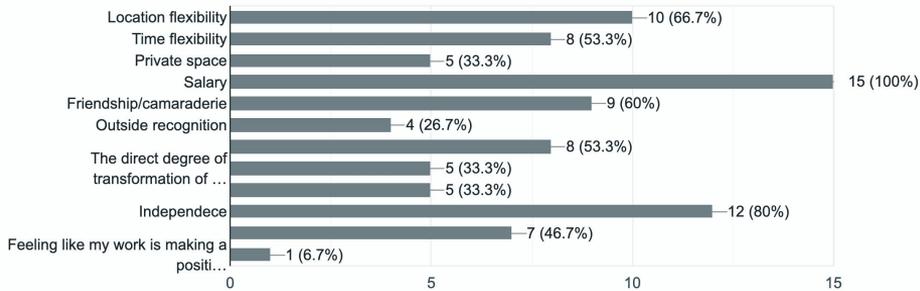
Does anyone have experience in one or more of these domains? How does your experience differ from Guo's?

Location flexibility	Industry
Time flexibility	Academia
Private space	Academia
Salary	Industry
Friendship /// Camraderie	Industry
Outside recognition /// Influence	Academia
The degree to which work contributes to career development	Industry
The direct degree of transformation of work into influence	Industry
Sense of control	Academia
Independence	Industry
Mentorship /// Guidance	

Survey Results 8 -805

Which characteristics do you value in a future career?

15 responses



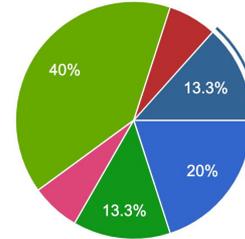
Additional Responses:

Spouse can also find a job in research (different field)

Feeling like my work is making a positive impact in the world; working on a social cause, strong interest in design work

What is the most important factor in your job search?

15 responses

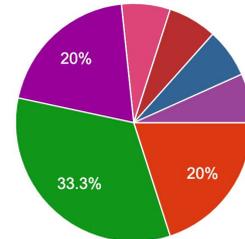


- Location Flexibility
- Time Flexibility
- Private Space
- Salary
- Friendship/Camaraderie
- Outside Recognition
- The degree to which work contributes...
- The direct degree of transformation of...

▲ 1/2 ▼

What is the second most important factor in your job search?

15 responses



- Location Flexibility
- Time Flexibility
- Private Space
- Salary
- Friendship/Camaraderie
- Outside Recognition
- The degree to which work contributes...
- The direct degree of transformation of...

▲ 1/2 ▼

Class discussion - 810-825

What were your feelings on Guo's article? What did you take away from it?

Think about your survey responses. What, if anything, about your options or responses surprised you?

You heard the experiences of two prior PhD students who went into industry rather than academia. What surprised you about their experiences?

What are your hope//fears about Academia?

What are your hope//fears about Industry/Government work?

Break-out rooms 825-835; Class Discussion 835 - 855

No slide - but bring back answers for the first two questions for the class discussion

Do you have questions about working in industry or government?

Are you aware of opportunities for PhD students in industry or government?

Does your research lend itself to working in industry or government? How?

Have you ever thought about working in industry or government? Why or why not?

Do you have any assumptions about what it would be like to work in industry or gov't?



Class discussion - 855-end (or time left as applicable)

What is the value of a post-doc in industry or government?

Does it translate into getting a position in either?

Could it ever be considered a negative?

Where might you find resources for locating and applying for positions?

Inside vs. outside of academia?

Has your advisor ever talked with you about the options/opportunities for working outside of academia?

If you prefer to go into Academia, do you have a backup plan? If so, what is it?

JAMBOARD! 805-810

What skills do you think are important for each: academia, industry, government?

Link: <https://jamboard.google.com/d/1MHHpHaYaL08F2EXPbsfqeFJ3fnIJiABkIdwFq9pKlkE/viewer?f=0>

Resources for PhD and Beyond

Spreadsheet of links to various university and other helpful career and teaching resources:

<https://docs.google.com/spreadsheets/d/10fhbrv8RNvfFR9yCGFVv1xNVAJenbfUhumOHQ4BKyVw/edit?usp=sharing>

Various templates collected from University and other helpful career and teaching resources:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1HjNPYaVg9PCuIMTSecNVIWZFtxL_sgK1?usp=sharing

Example documents collected from university and other helpful

career and teaching resources:

https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1BvBLnIYVg9BowtjC8BV_ikh5Fw27sbPH?usp=sharing



Additional Resource

How to Decide Whether Academia or Industry Is Right for You

Ultimately, the choice between academia and an industry research lab involves many compromises, and the best “fit” for you will likely depend on your individual preference and working style.

Here are some factors to consider before heading down either career path:

- Determine your **priorities**. Consider what matters most to you. Whether you're most concerned about salary potential, intellectual freedom, or flexibility, it's important to do some soul-searching to decide what you value most.
- Think about how you want to spend your time. **Consider how you actually want to spend your time day-to-day**. Think about how you feel about teaching, publishing, managing, interacting, traveling, negotiating, collaborating, presenting, reporting, reviewing, fundraising, etc.
- Know your **strengths**. Are you a self-starter who is able to proactively manage your own time? Or do you prefer to work in a more structured, process-oriented environment? Knowing your strengths can help direct you to the path that will increase your chances of success.
- Factor in your **personality**. Do you prefer to work independently, or do you thrive when working alongside others? Are you comfortable with self-promotion, or would you be more comfortable sharing your successes with a team?
- **Think long-term, but keep your options open**. Where do you see yourself in five years? 10? 20? Think about where you'd like to be long-term, but remember the choice you make is merely for the next step in your career. It doesn't have to be final. The field is currently more conducive to transitions between the two fields more than ever before.
- Be **true** to yourself. Most of all, be **honest** with yourself. Stay true to who you are, and consider what you are most passionate about. If you do this, you will find success in whichever path you choose.