

Preparing for the Realities of the PhD Job Market

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Realities of the Job Market

CURRENT US BIOLOGICAL, AGRICULTURAL & ENVIRONMENTAL PHD GRADUATES



52% WITHIN ACADEMIA

49% 4YR INSTITUTIONS
3% 2YR & PRECOLLEGE INSTITUTIONS

~20% TOTAL TENURED/TENURE-TRACK
~10.6% NEW ENTRANTS

48% OUTSIDE ACADEMIA



26% FOR-PROFIT BUSINESS



9% NONPROFIT BUSINESSES



8% FEDERAL GOVERNMENT

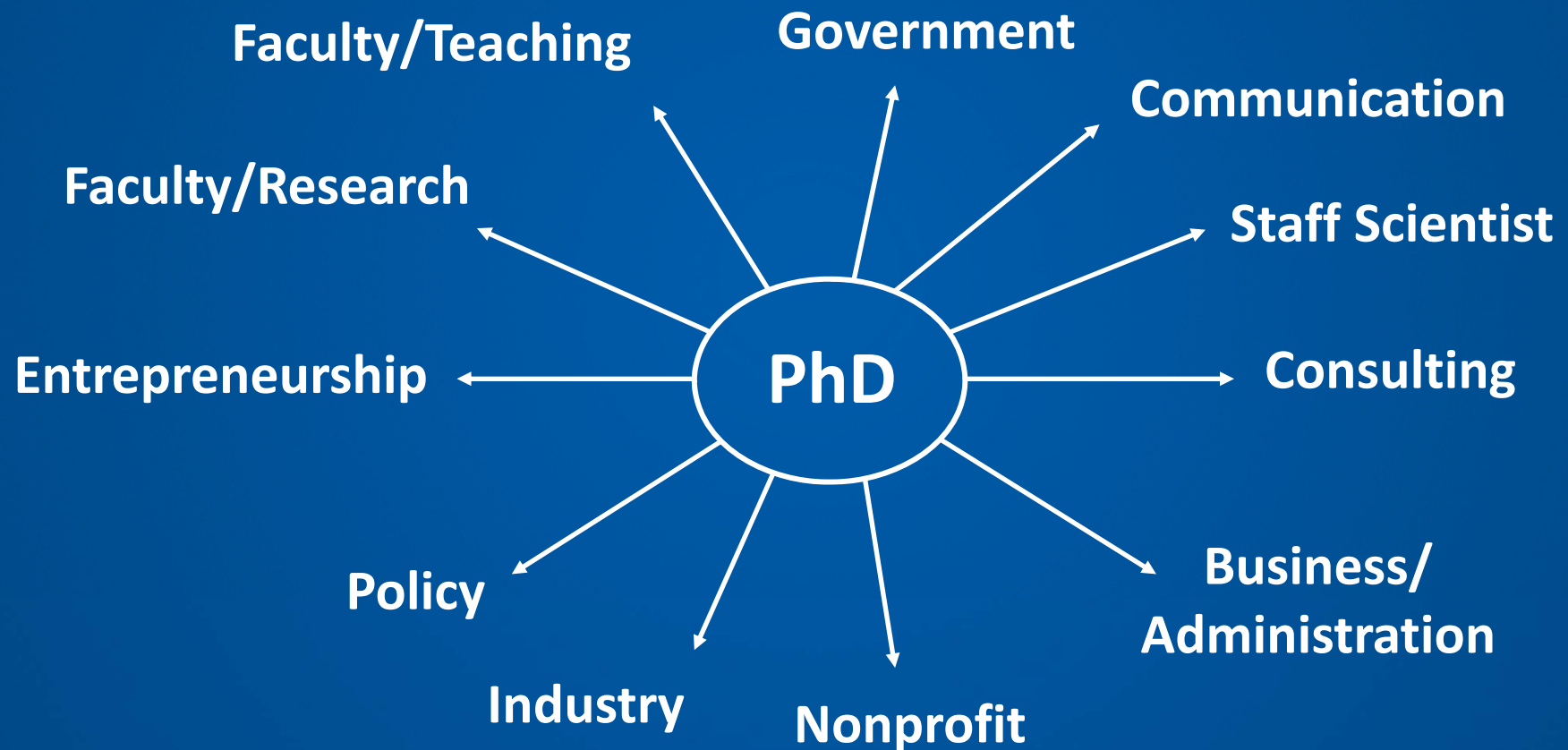


3% SELF-EMPLOYED, UNINCORPORATED BUSINESSES



2% STATE GOVERNMENT

The PhD as a Hub for Career Selection (and Applicable Training)



Administrative Career Areas in Academia

- Academic Affairs
- Institutional Effectiveness
- Diversity and Inclusion
- Library Services
- Economic Development
- Extension Services
- Information Services
- Philanthropy
- Finance and Administration
- Human Resources
- Marketing
- Public Relations
- Sponsored Projects
- Research Compliance
- Research Operations
- Research Development
- Health Care Enterprise Support

Career Timeline

Assistant Dean for Academic Development
College of Medicine
University of Kentucky

2014-present

2014-present

Assistant Professor
Department of Toxicology & Cancer Biology
University of Kentucky

2013

Master of Business Administration
Midway University

2012

2011-present

Director of Research Communications
Markey Cancer Center
University of Kentucky

2010-2011

Assistant Director for Research
Markey Cancer Center
University of Kentucky

2009-2010

Postdoctoral Fellowship
Molecular Physiology & Biophysics
Vanderbilt University

2010-2011

Scientific Writer and Editor
Markey Cancer Center
University of Kentucky

Doctor of Philosophy, PhD
Biochemistry
University of Kentucky

2008

2003

Bachelor of Science, BS
Agricultural Biotechnology
University of Kentucky

Job Description

Provide scientifically-oriented administrative support to all cancer research and related academic/career development activities within the Department of Toxicology and Cancer Biology, the Markey Cancer Center and the College of Medicine.

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- Operations manager
- Administrator
- Manager/leader
- Consultant
- Strategist
- PR/marketing liaison
- Government affairs liaison
- Teacher/mentor
- Career development specialist
- Researcher

Research Administration Highlights

Grant and State Support Activities

- Kentucky Lung Cancer Research Fund (Administrator)
- Cigarette Excise Tax Program (Co-administrator)
- Cancer Center Support Grant (Assistant Director for Research)
- Career Training in Oncology Program (Creator/ Founder and Director)

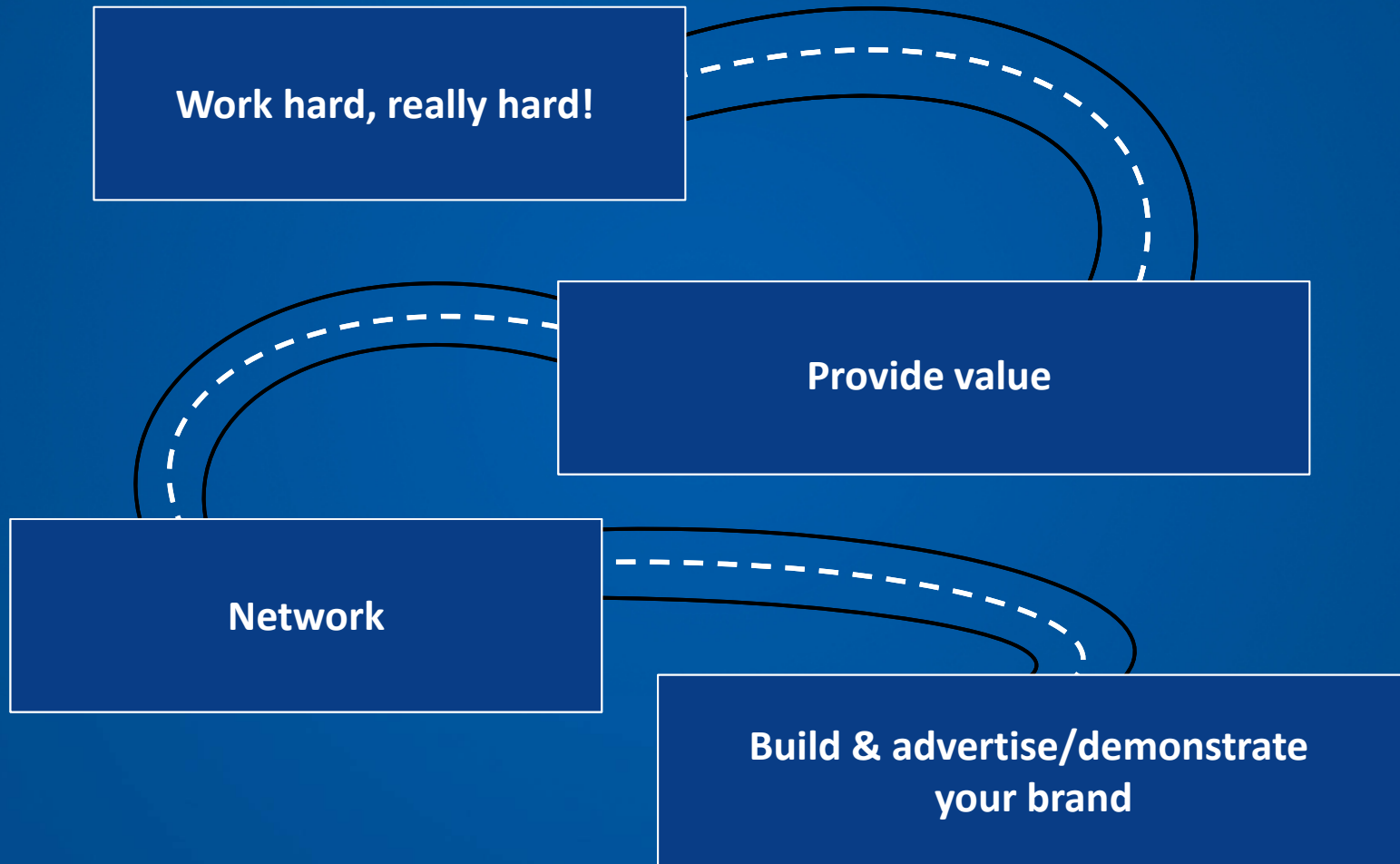
Other

- Markey Cancer Center Research Communications Office (Supervisor)
- Journal of Research Administration (Deputy Editor)
- National Institutes of Health, Risk, Prevention, and Health Behavior Fellowship Special Emphasis Study Section (Ad Hoc Member)

Teaching Highlights

Years (semester)	Course	Role
2016 (Fall)	Toxicology 508: Research in Toxicology	Research Mentor
2015 – current (Fall)	Toxicology 770: Orientation/Journal Club	Lecturer
2015 – current (Fall, Spring, Summer)	Experiential Education in Medicine 396	Course Director/ Faculty Sponsor
2014 – current (Spring)	Graduate School 600: Preparing Future Professionals/Toxicology 780: Preparing Science Professionals	Course Director/ Lecturer

The Roadmap to Success

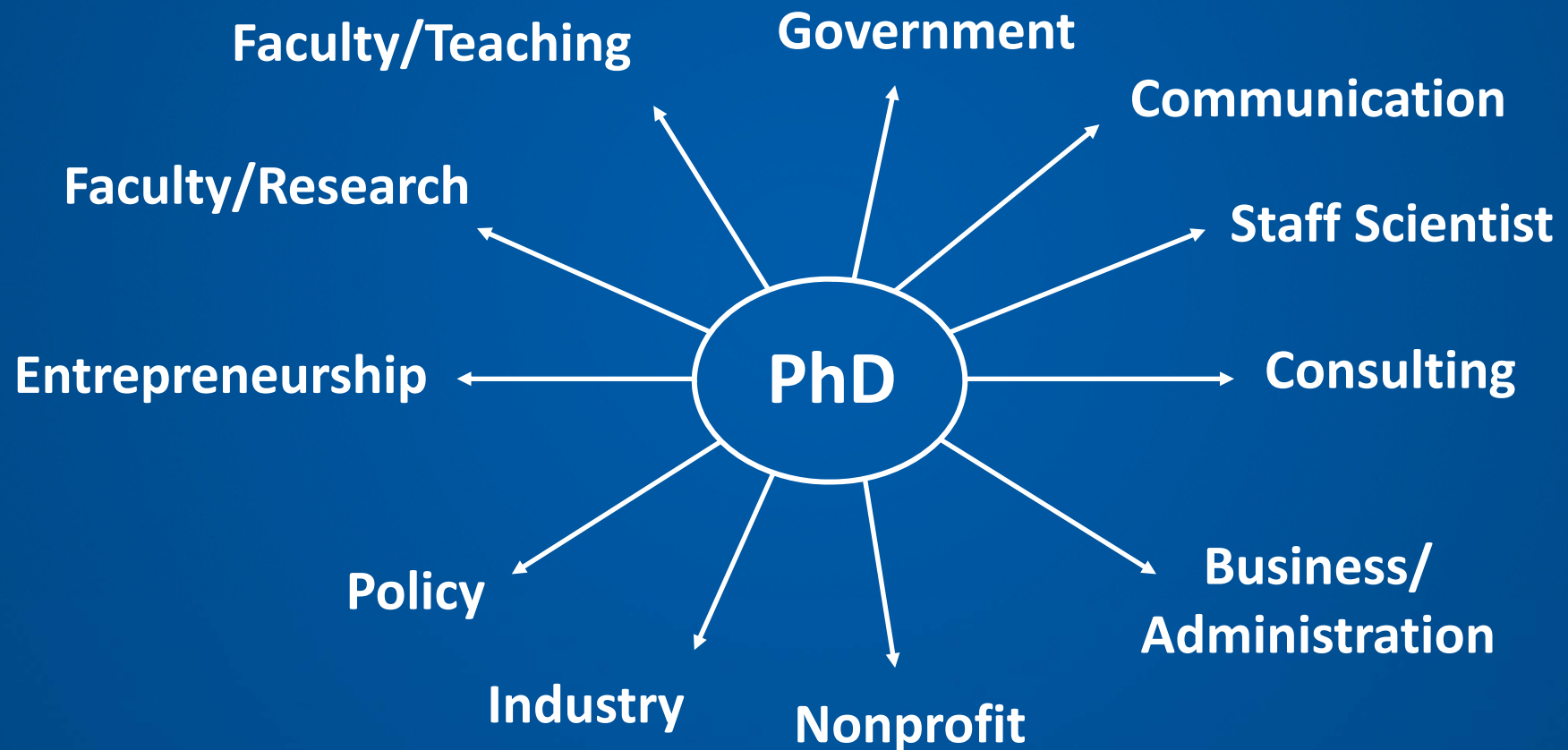




Advertising and Demonstrating Your Brand



The PhD as a Hub for Career Selection (and Applicable Training)



Work Experience

- Gain practical, hands-on work experience in your career field of interest.
 - You gain job sector/discipline-specific technical skills/knowledge.
 - You gain job sector/discipline-specific transferable skills/knowledge.
 - It increases your competitiveness (it boosts your resume!).

Transferable Skills

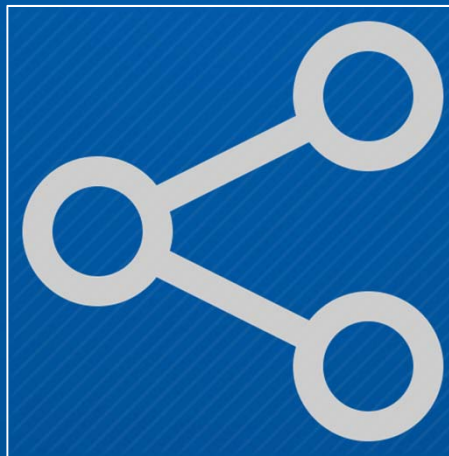
Skills taken from one situation to another

- Communication
- Interpersonal/team skills
- Good attitude
- Leader/follower skills
- Self-motivation/“Go getter”
- Time management
- Project management
- Ethics/integrity
- Resilience
- Critical/analytical thinking
- Problem solving
- Innovators
- Strategic perspective
- Business acumen

References: 1) Job Outlook 2013. (2012) National Association of Colleges and Employers; 2) Job Preparedness Indicator. (2011) Career Advisory Board; 3) It Takes More than a Major: Employer Priorities for College Learning and Student Success. (2013) The Association Of American Colleges And Universities; 4) Raising the Bar: Employers' Views on College Learning in the Wake of the Economic Downturn. (2008) The Association Of American Colleges And Universities.

Networking

- Interacting with other people to exchange information and develop contacts.
- ~80% of today's jobs are obtained through networking.



Informational Interviews

A meeting between a trainee or job seeker and someone within that person's career area of interest for the purpose of understanding that career path.



Preparing For the Workforce

- *Understand the realities* of the job market and the variety of career paths available.
- *Realize what skills are required* to transition into your career path of interest.
- *Identify resources* that can be leveraged to gain the skills needed to obtain a job within a chosen career path.
- *Take action* to actively prepare for your desired career path.

Questions?