



Sue Mosely

Planning your Career CV Workshop

@RoyalSocBio | #BiologyWeek | #RSBcareersDay



Career Planning Workshop

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**Careers &
Employability**

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What you'll gain today

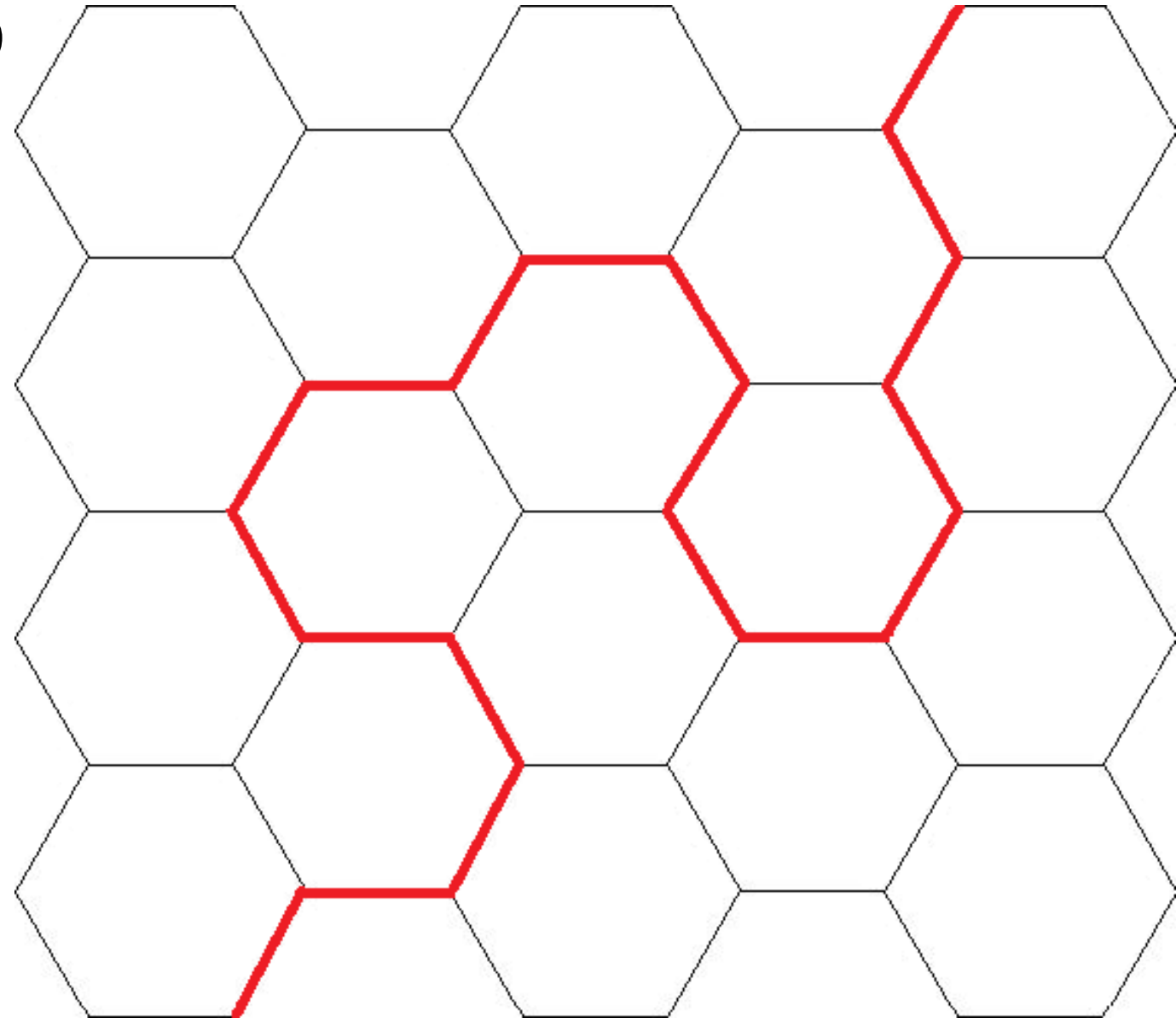
- The knowledge to bust some myths about careers and career planning
- An opportunity to think about your own career plan, informed by advice and examples of what others have done
- An insight into how learned societies can support your career

Myth busting

- There's a perfect career path for me out there
- Careers are something other people have
- If I think hard enough I'll know what I want to do

In reality

- 82% of UK employers do not mind which degree you have studied
- The research shows that trying things out is the best way to make decisions about our careers 'Forget about



In reality

- The term 'career' isn't always helpful – replace it:
 - **What do I want to learn about? What do I want to contribute? What do I need in return?**
- Life sciences students go on to a huge range of careers
 - **in science, with science and beyond science**
- The skills that you gain as a scientist are very popular with employers. **They include analytical skills, evidence-based decision making, communication,**

OK, so there's loads of choice
But choice brings its own challenges!
What are some examples?



Life science career pathways - examples

Beyond the Lab

- Science communication
- Regulatory affairs
- Science policy
- Clinical trial management
- Commercial and support (e.g. quality assurance)



Lab-based

- Pharmaceutical and Biotech roles e.g. in drug discovery
- Research in academia

In the wider economy

- Management
- Consulting
- Finance
- Law
- Civil Service
- Teaching
- & more...

Navigating your own career path

Career
stages
visualise
d

agree to



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Navigating your own career path



Moving forward during your studies

- Explore
- Experience/Discover
- Next steps /Decisions

How can today support your career?

- Talks, mock interviews, other attendees, exhibitors
- Making the most of meeting societies
 - HOW?...

Making the most of the societies here today

- Chat with them (that's why they have come!)
- Consider which ones you would like to join (yes, they want you to join!)
- Will you be a *passive* member (i.e. receive updates, use published information, put membership on your CV)?
- Will you be an *active* member (i.e. all of the above, plus get actively involved, enter competitions, go to events, join groups...)?

The societies here today: 8 ways they can help your career

1. Connect you to the scientific community – know what's going on in a wider context, including at a policy level
2. Meet people and connect at meetings and events
3. Take part in competitions, potential to win awards (e.g. Physiological Society has an award for UG research)

The societies here today: 8 ways they can help your career

5. Receive mentoring
6. Apply for 'studentships' (NB sometimes you need to have been a member for 12 months plus to do this) and gain other benefits e.g. Physiological Society has 50 undergraduate vacation studentships per year
7. Apply for internships and/or summer schools
8. Use careers info and ideas on their websites and

Useful questions for exploring

Steve Dalton's TIARA Framework

Trends

What trends are impacting your sector/organisation right now?

Insights

What surprises you most about your job/your employer?

What's been your most valuable experience at your employer so far, and why?

Advice

What can I be doing right now to prepare myself for a career in this field?

What do you know now that you wish you'd known when in my position?

Resources

What resources should I be sure to look into next?

What next steps would you recommend for someone in my position?

Assignments

What project(s) have you done that were useful to your organisation?

Have any projects increased in popularity recently at your organization?



Thank you
&
enjoy the day



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