

# The Biostatistics Career Development Workshop

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# Workshop agenda

<b>Topic</b>	<b>Content</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Assignment</b>
<b>Overview</b>	Overview of goals of this workshop, career paths for biostatisticians, resources for students	1:00-1:30 PM	Chunyu Liu
<b>Negotiation skills</b>	Negotiation of salary/resources	1:30-2:00 PM	Josée Dupuis
<b>Ethics</b>	Ethical and professional issues in biostatistics practice	2:00-2:30 PM	Howard Cabral
<b>Development of 3 minutes of pitch</b>	How to summarize your dissertation/thesis work in 3 minutes	2:30-3:15 PM	Gina Peloso
<b>Break</b>		3:15-3:30 PM	
<b>Career path panel</b>	Mentors describe their career paths	3:30-4:00 PM	Alumni and faculty
<b>Interviews/Resume review</b>	Individual review of resumes/mock interviews of students	4:00-5:00 PM	Alumni and faculty in mock interviews

# The Biostatistics Career Development Committee

- Chunyu Liu
- Gina Peloso
- Howard Cabral
- Joe Massaro
- Xiaoling Zhang

# Goals

- Long-term goal – implement a career development program tailored to biostatistics PhD/MA students
- Short-term goal – a more focused workshop as a first step
  - Build good collaboration with SPH career service
  - Foster networking

# Career Panelists

- David Gagnon
- Gheorghe Doros
- Joe Massaro
- Joanne Murabito – Co-PI, Framingham Heart Study
- Gyungah Jun – Faculty at BU and former Director and Head of Neurogenetics and Integrated Genomics, Andover Innovative Medicines (AiM) Institute, Eisai Inc.
- Caleb Bliss – Associate Director of Biostatistics at Takeda
- Sandeep Menon – Vice President and Head of Early Clinical Development (ECD) at Pfizer

# Career Development Resources

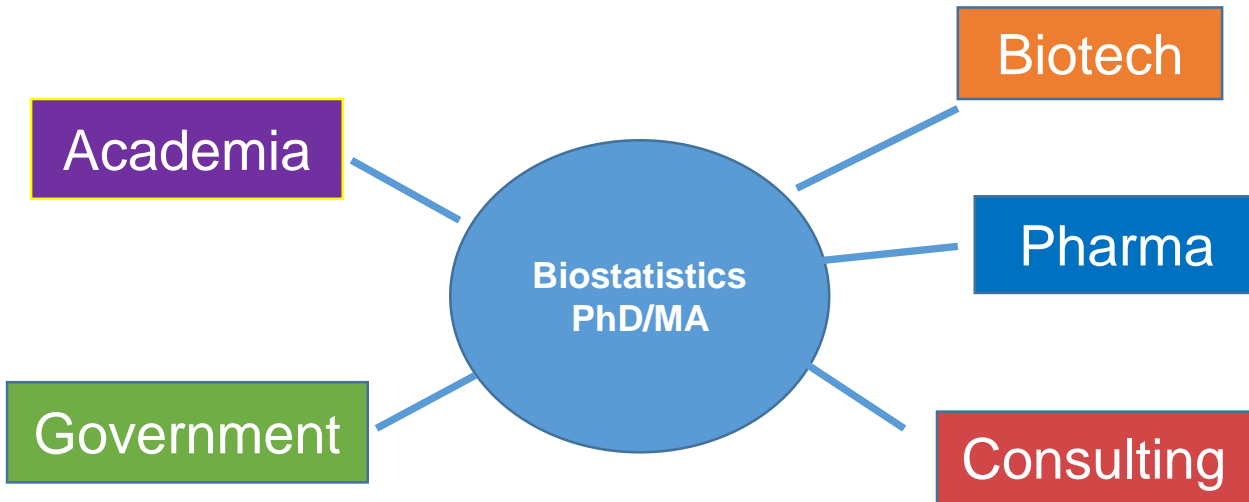
- <http://www.bu.edu/sph/careers/>
- <https://www.bu.edu/careers/>
- The Professional Development Plans (IDPs) developed by BU Graduate Medical Sciences

# Planning Post-student Life

- What is your career goal?



# Choose the Right Career Path

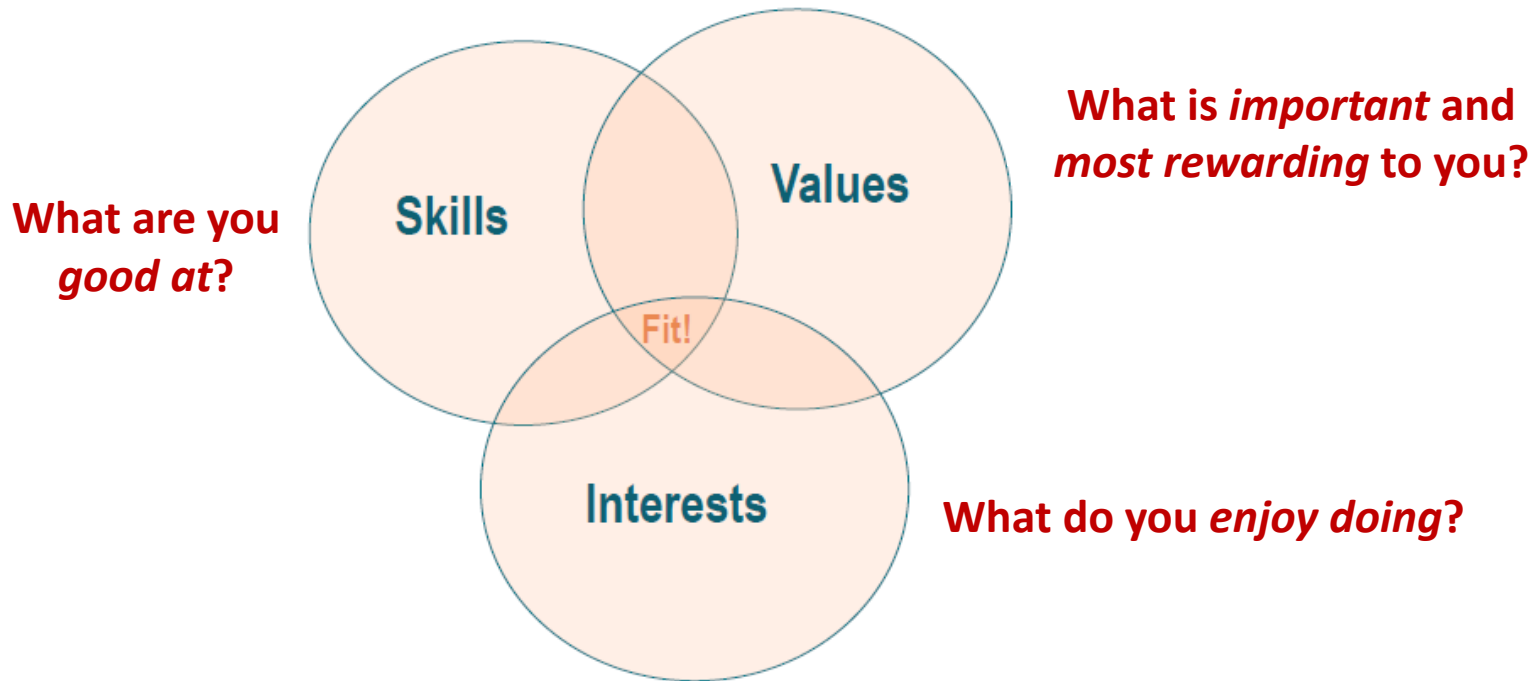




**How can you choose the  
right career path...  
and be more confident about your  
choice?**

*Planning early*

# Key – Know Yourself



Adapted from Cynthia Fuhrmann, Ph.D.

# Working in Company

- More exciting, collaborative team work
- Higher pay
- Publication – not a requirement
- Challenges
  - Routine jobs
  - **PROJECT WILL BE TERMINATED** WHEN YOUR COMPANY CHANGES ITS DIRECTION
  - Adaptability – key to survival

# Working in Academia

- Freedom
- Your interest
- Rewarding
- Challenges
  - Self-motivation
  - Funding
  - Research/Publication
  - Lower pay

# Building Network

- **Successful networking** is built upon good impression and work ethnics
  - Work hard
  - Present your work to collaborators
  - Volunteer
- Go to conferences/poster sessions
- Meet with invited speakers

# Good Presentation Skills

- Know your materials – **make a story!**
  - Practice, practice, and practice !
    - Write up script
    - Practice by yourself/check pronunciation
    - Practice with your group/advisor
- ] You are actually organizing thoughts for manuscript

# Know your potential employer

- Check their website
- Try to gain inside knowledge
- Check their locations

# When you go to your interview

- Be there early! Waiting is better than rushing!
- Be formal – dress and behave appropriately
- Show strong interest by asking good questions
- Write thank-you letters



# Career Services for Students & Alumni

<http://www.bu.edu/sph/careers/>

- Advising
- Workshops
- Self-Assessment
- Resume & CL Reviews
- Networking Help
- Elevator Pitch
- LinkedIn
- Mock Interviews
- Salary Negotiation
- Online Resources



# Two Types of Advising: General

- Licensed Counselor
- Often starts BEFORE the students know what they want
- Offers these Bread & Butter Services
- Fellowship and Advanced Degree Applications



Maria McCarthy  
Director  
Career Advising &  
Professional Development

# Other Type of Advising: Certificate-Based

- Certificate-Based Bread & Butter Services
  - Where are the Jobs
  - How to fill gaps
  - Make themselves more marketable



Julia Lanham  
CHS



Gwenn Fairall  
Global Health



Stern Chamblain  
HCM & HPL



Marie Daniel  
EPI/BIO and EH



Lisa Toby  
Consulting,  
Management

# Summary

- Implement a career development program tailored to biostatistics PhD/MA students
- Your career development
  - The right career path
    - Set short-term and long-term goals
  - Early planning
  - Networking
  - Good presentation skills