

Minutes “Stay in Science workshop” - May 28th 2021

Present: Alessio, Alexandra, Avanish, Bouke, Igor, Serena (all via Zoom)

1. General advice

- a. Do what you want to do now, don't do things only because they look good on your CV
- b. Hobbies are important to mention on one's CV
- c. Tune your CV to what the group is looking for
- d. Make sure to get recognition for your work
- e. Learn to write grant applications
- f. Don't get a position that doesn't make you feel proud of yourself
- g. Seek advice from senior researchers
- h. Ask questions, volunteer for talks, pinpoint where you're stuck, don't oversell your results

2. Debate questions to the speakers

- a. “Only the best few percentages of PhD candidates continue in science” - true or not?
 - i. Mixed answers: yes, no, true to some extent
 - ii. Multidisciplinary skills help anyway
- b. Issues with relocations/travel and family
 - i. It's a similar situation to industry
 - ii. There's actually more freedom in academia, probably
 - iii. It used to be cooler to move around in the past, now not anymore
- c. Is changing experiment/field good for your career?
 - i. Yes
 - ii. It's important to do a good job regardless
 - iii. You don't *really* have to change field/experiment
- d. You should do other things than research to get recognition
 - i. Yes, increasingly so.
 - ii. There are even specific committees surveilling the quality of teaching nowadays
 - iii. Teaching is still regarded as not that important for one's career in some other countries