Managing Your Career Questionnaire

Questions to get you started: (It is OK not to know the answer to all of these questions today!)

1. List two specific job(s)/occupation(s) you plan to pursue after earning your PhD or completing this postdoc position.

   Job A: _______________________   Job B: _______________________

   Use one of these two occupations to answer the remainder of the questions.

2. What skills and qualifications are required to be a competitive candidate for this type of job/career (Job A) upon graduation/completion of your postdoc?

3. How does this career path match/not match your interests? Current skills and experiences? Personal values?

4. What industry sectors or settings can you do this type of work in?
5. Name at least 5 potential employers:

6. What is the salary range you can expect based on your qualifications?

7. What professional associations do those in this career join and utilize for networking? Are there any regional chapters of these associations in the DC/Maryland area?

8. What career resources and information is available on these/other professional association websites?

9. What are some of the key issues/trends are happening related to this career?

NEXT STEP: Create your own Individual Development Plan (IDP). It is a useful tool designed to assist with identifying career and professional goals and objectives that will enable you to be ready to enter a satisfying career in academia, private industry, government or nonprofit organizations. An IPD is a plan to acquire the skills and competencies needed to achieve short and long-term career goals and objectives. IDPs can be created in myIDP (STEM) and ImaginePhD (Humanities and Social Sciences; ChemIDP). Printable copies of UC-Irvine’s IDP and University of Wisconsin’s IDP are also good templates to use to create your own IDP.