Managing Your Career Questionnaire

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

1. (SA) List 5-10 of your top skills that you currently can offer an employer:

2. (RC) List the specific job(s)/occupation(s) you plan to pursue after earning your PhD or completing this postdoc position.
   
   Job A: ______________________  Job B: ______________________
   
   Job C: ______________________  Other Options: ______________________

3. (SA & RC) What industry or setting would you like to do this type of work in?

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

5. (SA & RC) What “skills or experience gap” do you need fill while in grad school or your postdoc to be competitive for this type of job?
6. (RC) What does the typical career path and salary progression look like in this career?

7. (RC) What does the job market look like for this job/career path over the next 5-10 years? what are some of the key issues/trends are happening related to this career?

8. (RC) What professional associations do those in this career join and utilize for networking?

9. (TA) Based on what you learned in this workshop, what possible steps/actions might you build into your IDP this academic year to increase your knowledge about your skills or specific careers or to build technical and soft skills?

**NEXT STEP:** Create your own Individual Development Plan (IDP). It is a useful tool designed to assist with:

1. Identifying career and professional goals and objectives that will enable you to be to ready to enter a satisfying career in academia, private industry, government or nonprofit organizations;
2. Assessing your skills, values and qualifications relative to your specific career goals;
3. Developing a concrete plan to acquire the skill 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; available 10/17). Printable copies of [UC-Irvine’s IDP](#) and [University of Wisconsin’s IDP](#) are also good templates to use to create your own IDP.