Career advice and Handbook

- Academic Career outlooks: Write-up
- Follow-up investigations

Kristin Lohwasser¹

¹University of Sheffield





> Results/Outcomes from short survey now written up

- General attitude towards Physics
 - > Inspiration: Why physics
 - > Change throughout the year
- Careers in Physics
- Career advice
- 23 responses

> Submitted to archive (ed-ph)

- http://arxiv.org/abs/2001.00988
- **Developing Careers in Physics --**Perspectives of Particle Physics
- Report-no: VBSCAN-PUB-09-19



Developing Careers in Physics – Perspectives of Particle Physics Researchers from the VBScan network at various stages of their careers VBSCAN-PUB-09-19

Kristin Lohwasser

arXiv:2001.00988v1

¹Department of Physics and Astronomy, Sheffield University, Sheffield, UK

Abstract

Outlooks of particle physics researchers on their careers and the general challenges in establishing their careers over different career stages are surveyed using a questionnaire distributed to participants in an ERC-funded research network, "VBScan". The respondents displayed a great deal of insight into what is needed for a career in academia, or ore specifically particle physics, though they also did not downplay the element of "luck". Some notable differences between career levels could be observed in problems raised and attitudes towards careers.



Developing careers in physics

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Abstract

Outlooks of particle physics researchers on their careers and the general challenges in establishing their careers over different career stages are surveyed using a questionnaire distributed to participants in an ERC-funded research network, "VBScan". The respondents displayed a great deal of insight into what is needed for a career in academia, or one specifically particle physics, though they also did

A Phd student: I was not sure how useful this would be when I filled it in, but it was really interesting to the all the different answers and realize that also the other people face problems

Developing careers in physics: Follow up

- > Current survey focused mainly on active researchers
 - Bias on people who stayed in academia
 - Research is just a small section of available careers in Physics
 - → would like to extend questionnaire
- > Gather real life experience from people who left the field
 - What do they do now?
 - How do they feel about their research years?
 - What's better/worse now?
 - What are job you could be doing in the future?
- > 2 part approach:
 - 1) practical: Jobs

2) general outlook on career and life



Developing careers in physics: 1) Jobs

> Questions

- How to find the job
- What is the job now?
- Similarities to research "job" (expected and observed)

What is your advice to someone with a physics PhD on how to set out finding a job ? Long answer text	
How did you find your first job outside of physics? Long answer text	What is similar between your current jobs (in terms of work) compared to your academic job? Long answer text
How was this job advertised (and did you think it was close to your previous job in physics)? Long answer text	What is different between your current jobs (in terms of work) compared to your academic job? Long answer text
Can you describe, what you do in your current job Long answer text The	What are the advantages and disadvantages of a job in industry vs. academia? Long answer text



Developing careers in physics: 1) Jobs

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What is your - 12 people replied Long answer - 10 are happy to be contacted with questions by VBScan members How did you mic job? Long answer - 7 working in DE, 3 in GE, 1 IT, 1 in (Netherlands, How was thi France, Austria, Germany) demic job? Long answer - Nice to get more examples from all around Europe (very Germany and probably experiment centered) Can you des Long answer text

Long answer text



Developing careers in physics: 2) Career and life in general

> Questions

- Same questions as already written up survey amongst the researchers
- Main ideas:
 - > About your life in physics in general : Why did you like physics how has this changed?
 - Careers in Physics -what is necessary? (inside and outside of academia)

Only 2 replies so far

Would be nice to see more!

Please advertise

```
Dear all,
we would like to create a database for a jobs outside academia, but
concentrating more on the actual job content for people to be able to
see what one does on a one-to-one basis.
This is in order to show people real-life experiences from a wide rang
of people who have left particle physics. In order to create this data
base or summary of experience, we have created a survey (first link
below [1]) and we would be grateful if you could fill it (anonymity is
fully ok! It is really about the job experience in itself).
On a second note, we would like to conduct a survey on career
attitudes and feelings towards physics as well as career prospects
inside and outside of academia [2]. The 'inside' job has already been
done (see attached pdf if you are interested). If you'd happy to
contribute to this project too, please also answer the survey in the
second link.
Best
VBScan network
========
Job data base
[1]
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1uc07- y IiQerF3Hms8JEuXgSZN1vPgr1r7P2
SV0mEw/edit?usp=sharing
_____
old career form
[2]
https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1fnqBBpoZkpxkt86-ykJXE7jr53DC5qpiZ8eG0
_v1bUY/edit?usp=sharing
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Short discussion

- > Please forward survey!!
- > Are there any other ways to advertise?
- > A reminder of the collection of job advert (site) within the network/HEP
 - https://twiki.cern.ch/twiki/bin/view/VBSCan/VBSCanJobs



Backup

