# Summary

- The room was more than 3/4 full with greater than 150 people in attendance.

- The questions were well distributed across all four panelists. All the Panelists were very interactive and were able to answer most of the questions posed to them.

- Topics discussed:
    - post docs vs industry vs academia vs government and non-traditional paths
    - How to get back into the field after being away
    - Going abroad for grad school or post doc
    - Post doc in a different area than graduate work, length of time, pay
    - What is the application process like for a company that is outside of the US?
    - What are hiring managers looking for?
    - Can I find a job if my experience and skill set are not exactly the same as job listing?
    - How can I get a job coming out of school when many jobs require experience? Discussed internships
    - Networking
    - Locations

- Two things maybe to note for next year. It would be good to get a panelist who went through the visa process to become a full time employee at a US company. There appeared to be several questions around this subject and no one on the panel had any experience with that topic. It might also be good to try to get an application scientist from an instrument company on the panel (5 panelists instead of 4) as it would be good to get their perspective on opportunities in that sector and the transition into or out of the field.

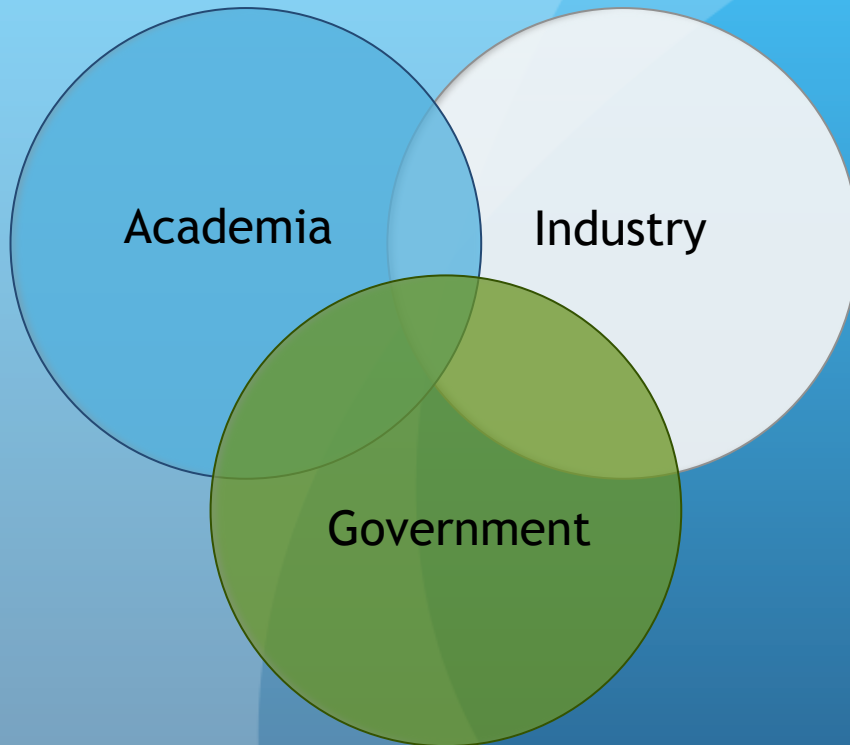# MS Career Options: How to Kick Start Your Career

Co-chaired by Kristin Wildsmith and M. Violet Lee

6th June 2016

San Antonio, TX
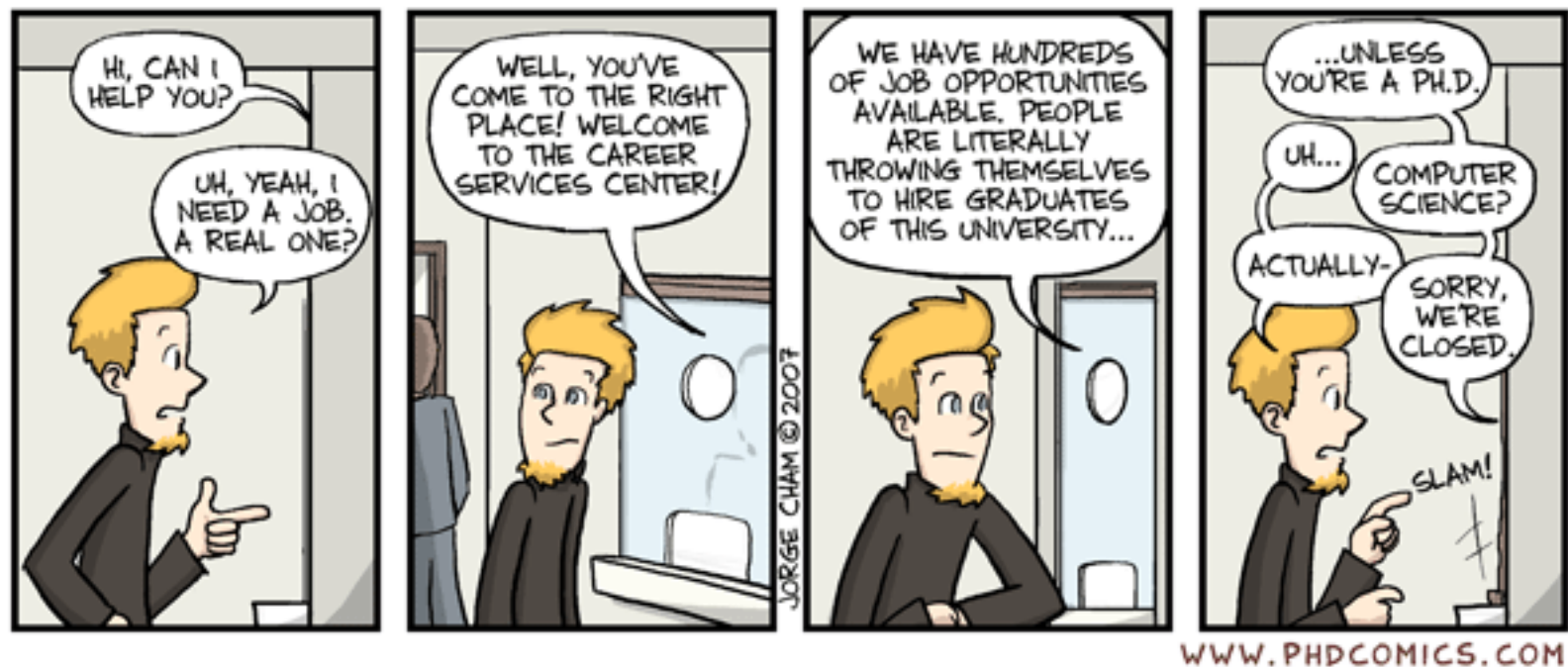
Not to worry, there are many career path options!

- Academia:
    - Professor (research vs. teaching institutions)
    - Staff Scientist
- Industry:
    - Pharma
    - Contract Research Organization (CRO)
    - Biotech-different sectors
    - Instrumentation
- Government:
    - NIH
    - FDA
    - NIST

Sharon Pitteri

Representative of: Academia

Current Role: Assistant Professor in the Department of Radiology at Stanford University School of Medicine (2011)

Education: PhD Chemistry Purdue University, Post Doc Fred Hutchinson Cancer Research Center

Focus Area: studying complex mixtures including clinical and biological samples to improve cancer diagnostics, developing and applying methods to study glycoproteins

André Liesener

Representative of: Industry, Pharma, non-North America

Current Role: Head of the Bioanalytical Lab in DPMK Dept, Bioanalysis group at Boehringer Ingelheim Pharma GmbH & Co. KG (Germany, 2006)

Education: PhD & Post Doc in Analytical Chemistry from Universiteit Twente, Enschede, The Netherlands

Focus Area: Small molecule and protein quant in preclinical and clinical samples including targeted proteomics and metabolomics biomarkers

Brian Rago

Representative of: Industry, Pharma

Current Role: Senior scientist in the Large Molecule LC-MS group in the Dept of Pharmacokinetics, Dynamics & Metabolism at Pfizer Inc (2007)

Education: Masters in Biology from Brown Univeristy

Focus Area: Antibody Drug Conjugates

Steve Swatkoski

Representative of: Government

Current Role: Chemist at US Food and Drug Administration/ Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition (2015)

Education: PhD Chemistry University of Maryland, Post Doc Johns Hopkins Medical Institute

Focus Area: Food proteomics

Starter Questions

- What is the right path for me?

- What are my options?

- How did you transition to your current position?

- How to choose between academia, industry, and government?

- How do I go about starting my job search? Resources?

- How do I prepare for an interview?
    - Compare between different sectors

Tools for Successful Career in the Field of MS

◉ **<u>Networking</u> with people in the field through various avenues**
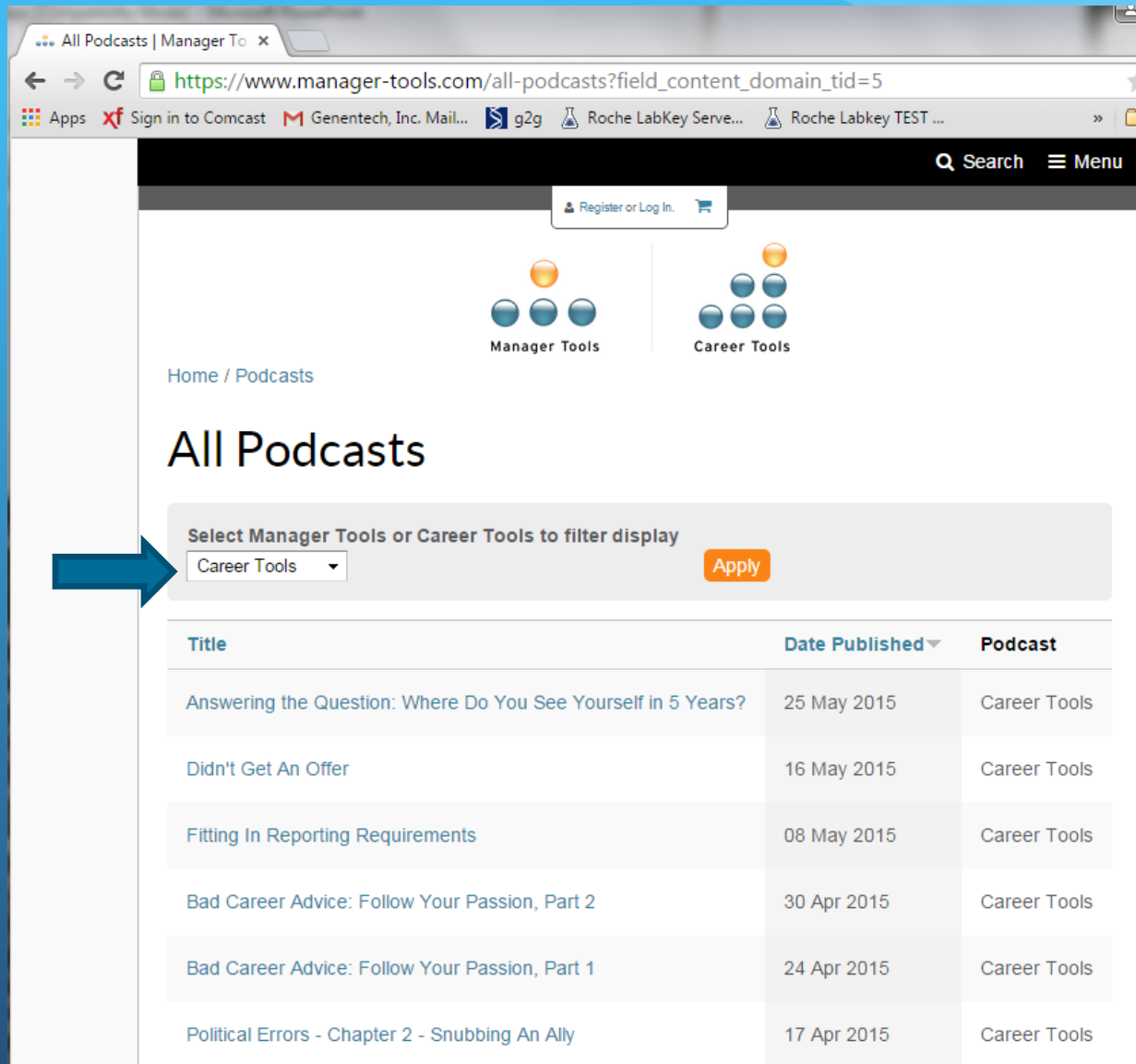
◉ **Knowledge of the broader field of mass spectrometry:**
- ◉ How do all the different types of MS work?
- ◉ When do I want to use the different types of MS
- ◉ Where is MS applied?
  - ◉ Petroleum to food-to pharmaceutical industry as well as to clinical, sports, and cosmetics.
- ◉ What bioinformatics tools and softwares do I need to be familiar with to run and analyze data? (e.g. Analyst, Skyline, etc.)

Modern Job Search Tools

- Online job search engines:
  - ASMS career center, LinkedIn, Indeed, Monster, CareerBuilder
- Recruiting agencies
- Internships
- Familiarity with alternative places for job postings:
  - scientific journals and magazines, scientific societies websites, conferences, company and/or academic institution websites
- Participation at the national and local mass spectrometry discussion group

Career Tools Podcasts

www.manager-tools.com Michael Auzenne and Mark Horstman