My academic journey

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MY CAREER TO DATE

2009
University of Glasgow

Started my PhD
(Hydrogen storage materials)

2013
University of St Andrews

PhD in Chemistry
Postdoc in battery materials

Dec 2016
University of Oxford

Lectureship
MY CAREER TO DATE

SOME ADVICE...

TRY TO PLAN AHEAD AS MUCH AS YOU CAN (AND HAVE ALWAYS A BACK UP PLAN)

....IT IS NOT ALWAYS SO SIMPLE THOUGH... STEP BY STEP......
WHAT EXCITES YOU MOST ABOUT THE FUTURE?

WE CAN HAVE A HUGE IMPACT ON SOCIETY...
WHAT GIVES YOU THE GREATEST JOB SATISFACTION?

• THE PHD AND PDRAS THAT I WORK WITH.
• Be ready to pursue your own research ideas.
• Be your own boss.
• Be ready to push your boundaries, be disciplined and pro-active

HOWEVER, academia is not always kind for early-career academics...

• Getting your lab “established” takes time if you start from 0.
• Be ready for failure- rejected papers, rejected grants..
• Be ready for Academic bias.

You need to be kind to yourself to survive!
WHAT HAS BEEN YOUR MOST SIGNIFICANT CAREER DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY TO DATE?

SOME ADVICE....

• Ask, ask, ask!
• Identify your weakest points and try to improve them.
• Watch out for opportunities around you
• Have mentors and a good support network
WHERE DO YOU ASPIRE YOUR CAREER TO DEVELOP TO?
Any Questions?