

Research as a Career

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“The joy of research must be found in doing, since every other harvest is uncertain” (T. Smith)

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Why Research?

- Stay curious!
- Enjoy stimulating collaborations
- Belong to a community of scholars
- Gain perspective on ideas
- Enjoy dividends in other activities

How Research?

Work on

- important problems
- productively
- with good people
- in a supportive environment.

Seek out and enjoy recognition for your accomplishments.

“If you want to make important discoveries, work on important problems.” (P.B. Medawar)

- Develop judgement, independence of mind
- Have a coherent research plan
- Get on with it!

Work Productively

- Set aside time to focus on new or challenging problems
- Think creatively
- Cultivate a research mentality
- Use resources (such as library) effectively
- Value your time and that of others

Work With Good People

- Discuss your research with your colleagues and with the best people in your area
- Seek out good collaborators
- Provide clear guidance and feedback to your advisees

Work in a Supportive Environment

- Support includes time, money, constructive feedback, role models, mentors, advocates
- Reason effectively for needed resources
- Support others

Enjoy Recognition

- Publish in best journals, conferences
- Give talks regularly at good institutions
- Interdisciplinary work should be valuable to all relevant disciplines
- *Celebrate your accomplishments!*