

# Career Resources for Grad Students

This document outlines some of the campus and online resources that may help and guide graduate students through their career planning journeys.

## The Graduate School

The Graduate School offers Professional and Career Development Services for PhD students that can be accessed at: [About the Graduate School's Professional and Career Development Services](#). You can navigate the site from the right hand side table with the heading "Students". There is a lot here, so the following is a breakdown of just a few of the things you can find there:

- **Rita B. Leahy Career Series:** every month, there is a 1 hour long session focused on a specific career path (e.g., data science, policy & advocacy, writing & communication, federal careers, etc.) with panelists who are UMD alumni working in those fields now. The schedule is [here](#), and recordings from 2020/21 are here: <https://go.umd.edu/leahyrecordings>.
- **Doctoral Career Pathways Conference:** Similar to Rita B. Leahy Career Series, but is a day-long conference with more opportunity to talk to alumni panelists about their careers and career paths. You can see a list of past panelists [here](#) and the April 2021 conference schedule and panelists [here](#) to get an idea of what it's like.
- **Workshops:** These are ~1 hour long workshops that cover a range of topics (e.g., resume/CV/cover letters, job search strategies, evaluating offers, etc.). The workshops are recorded and you can find past workshops and recordings [here](#). The Graduate School Writing Center also regularly holds workshops, including job document preparation workshops. You can find information about those [here](#).
- **PhD Career Navigator:** An ELMS course containing several modules that walk you through various aspects of career planning. There are also pop-up sessions where you can work through the modules with members of the Career Navigator Team. Sign up and pop-up session information can be found [here](#). There are also two multi-part workshops -- sign up info appears in emails from Dr. Susan Martin and the Graduate Student Life emails. The workshops are: (1) *What are You Going to Do with Your PhD (4 weeks)*, and (2) *Internship and Job Search for PhDs (5 weeks)*.
- **Graduate Pathways:** The Graduate School has a sort of "rubric" that covers different elements of career planning, which you can find [here](#), and they run events all the time to get you situated on the "graduate pathways" and thinking about your career planning. For example, in January 2021, they ran a "Success Symposium" going over some of these pathway elements. You can

see what that looked like [here](#). If you like writing things down and working through worksheets, you can also find a variety of planning worksheets [here](#).

- *Career Week with the Alumni Association*: This is a week-long “conference” where you have even more opportunities to meet with alumni, learn about career paths and options, and network. You can see the January 2021 schedule [here](#).

## University Career Center and The President’s Promise

The University Career Center is for both undergraduates and graduate students, so you can also find a lot of useful information and events there.

- *Careers4Terps*: Dr. Susan Martin works with PhD students specifically. She is very knowledgeable, kind, and understanding. If you need to talk to someone about career planning (getting started or any other stage), someone to go over your job/post-doc application materials, she will help you. You can set up a meeting with her through [Careers4Terps](#).
- *Workshops and Job Fairs*: The University Career Center also hosts workshops, panels, job fairs, employer visits, etc. that are suitable for both undergrads and grads. These can be found on the [events calendar](#).

## Additional Resources

This is a list of additional resources that may help you on your career planning journey. Some of these are linked from the Graduate School’s Professional and Career Development Services page of additional resources (you can find

- *Aurora by Beyond the Professoriate*: All UMD graduate students have access to this; just log in with your regular UMD credentials [here](#). This is a tool that lets you explore different career paths, hear from PhDs in alternate career paths, get you thinking about your transferable skills, develop and prepare your job application materials, etc. They also have a ton of webinars and workshops running all the time, they host a career planning conference, and have a podcast.
- *ImaginePhD*: This is another career exploration tool, that also allows you to explore skills that might be useful for various career paths and identify areas where you might have gaps, and also helps you plan and map out your next steps in your career planning. Registration is free, and you can find it [here](#).
- *myIDP (Individual Development Plan)*: This is another tool that will guide you through assessing your skills and goals, and help you identify next steps to achieving your goals. Registration is free and you can join [here](#).
- *American Astronomical Society*: The AAS has a career page with information, resources, and articles about academic and non-academic careers, which you can find [here](#). If you are a member of the AAS, you’ll also receive regular emails from them which often contain information about workshops and

webinars about career planning, job seeking, and different types of careers you can pursue after your astronomy PhD. You can also find past “webinars for job seekers” [here](#).

- *AAAS Science Magazine*: The AAAS Science magazine, which you can find [here](#), also has a careers resources page with articles about academia itself and jobs in and out of academia, they also have a webinar/podcasts page with science careers and nontraditional science career paths.

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