

Is this Right for Me?

August 31st, 2021

Facilitators:

Hannah Nelson

(she|her|hers)

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Preview Day Organizers & Presenters



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Elena
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Madison
Armstrong



Hannah
Nelson



Elise
Elwood

| | Mon | Tues | Wed | Thurs | Fri |
|--------|-----|--|-----|---|---|
| Week 1 | 2 | 3  Nuts & Bolts of Grad School | 4 | 5 Personal/ Diversity Statement Workshop  | 6 |
| Week 2 | 9 | 10  How to Apply & Timeline | 11 | 12  Office Hours | 12 |
| Week 3 | 16 | 17  Funding & Grant Writing | 18 | 19  Navigating Grad School Identity Panel | 20 |
| Week 4 | 23 | 24  Find a Good Fit | 25 | 26  Office Hours | 27 |
| Week 5 | 30 | 31  Is this Right for Me? | 1 | 2  Wrap-Up! | All sessions will be 5:00-6:30pm PST via Zoom |

Session Scope & Facilitator Roles

Scope

90 minute workshops are an introduction, with resources to dig deeper!

Roles

We are peer facilitators, here to help guide participants' discovery.

Session Norms



Please have video on, if possible



Stay muted unless speaking



Use the “raise your hand” feature or chat us if you have a question or comment



Be respectful, be curious

Session Goals

By the end of the session, participants will be able to:

1. Deliver an elevator pitch about their research interests
2. Reflect on whether to pursue grad school

Session Overview

- Grad School: Bird's eye view
- Panel: Why I did/did not choose grad school
- Reflection Time
- Concluding Remarks

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Grad School: Bird's Eye View

1. Survey of current PhD students
 - a. Satisfaction & enjoyment
 - b. Workload
 - c. Discrimination & harrasment
2. Survey of ecology PhD graduates
 - a. Employment statistics
 - b. Career paths
 - c. Salaries



Grad School: Bird's Eye View

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Q: How satisfied are you with your decision to pursue a PhD?

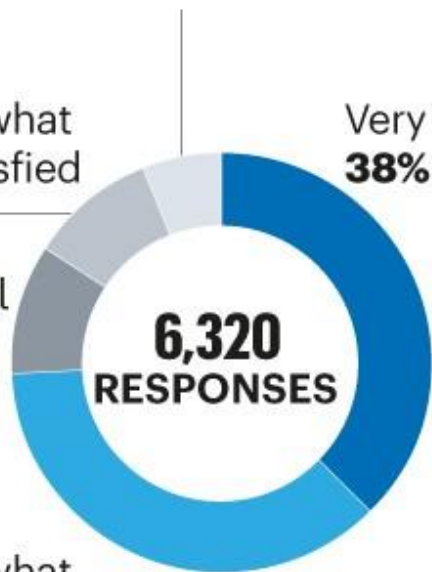
Very dissatisfied **6%**

Somewhat dissatisfied
10%

Neutral
10%

Somewhat satisfied
37%

Very satisfied
38%

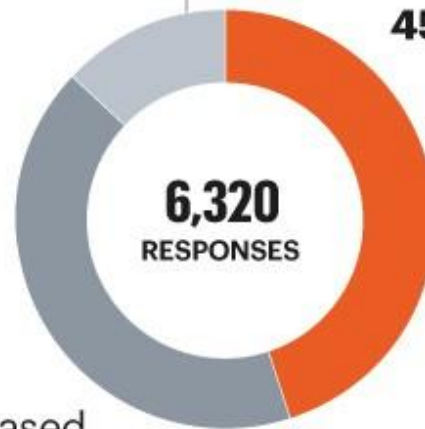


Q: Since the start of your graduate school experience, has your level of satisfaction increased, worsened or remained the same?

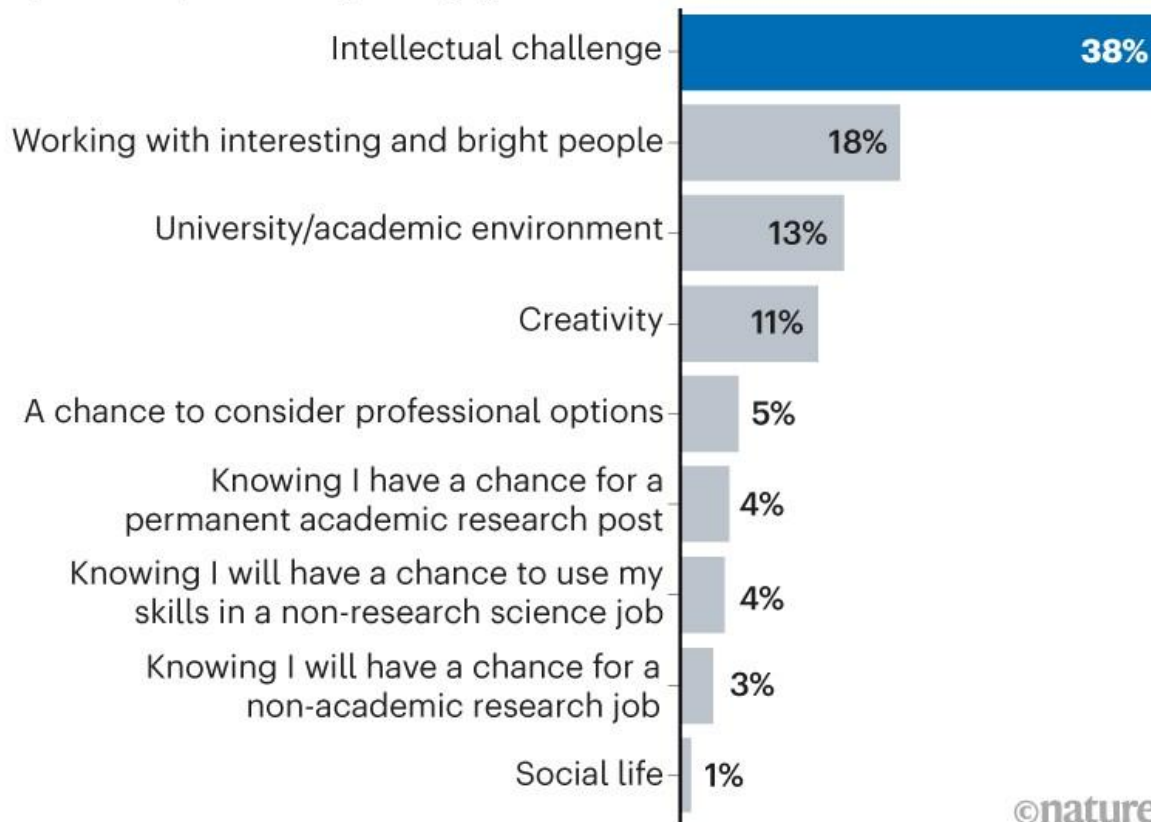
Neutral **13%**

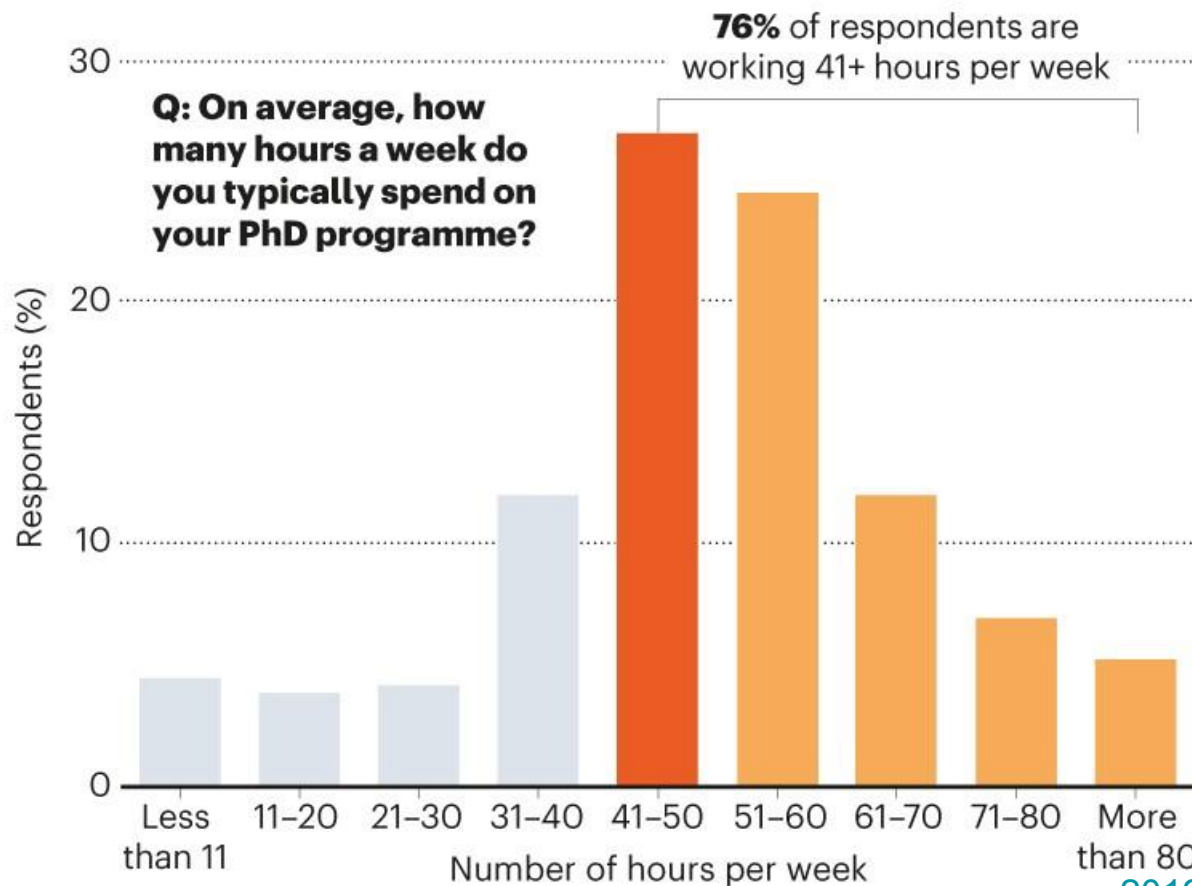
Worsened
45%

Increased
42%

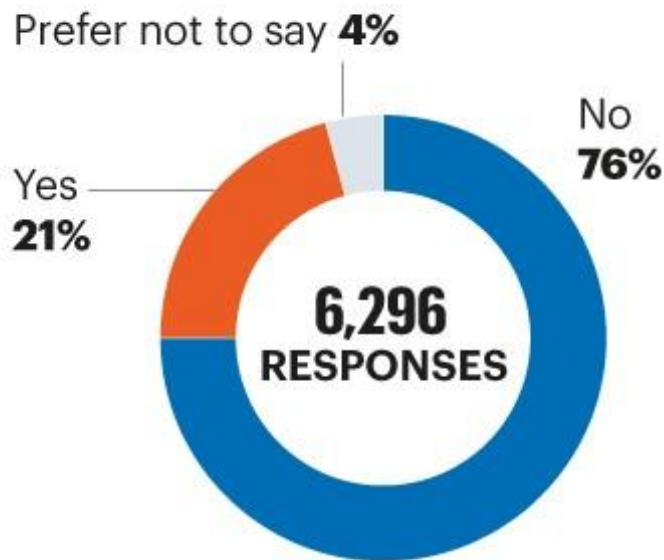


Q: Overall, what do you enjoy most about life as a PhD student?



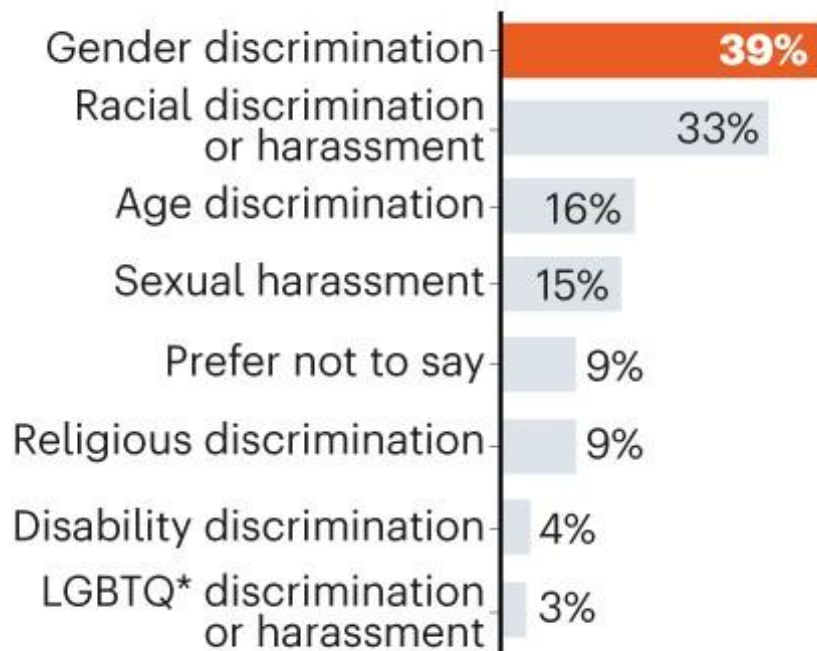


Q: Have you experienced discrimination or harassment in your PhD programme?



©nature

Q: If yes, which of the following have you experienced?



*People from sexual and gender minorities.

Grad School: Bird's Eye View

1. Survey of current PhD students
 - a. Satisfaction & enjoyment
 - b. Workload
 - c. Discrimination & harassment

2. **Survey of ecology PhD graduates**
 - a. **Employment statistics**
 - b. **Career paths**
 - c. **Salaries**

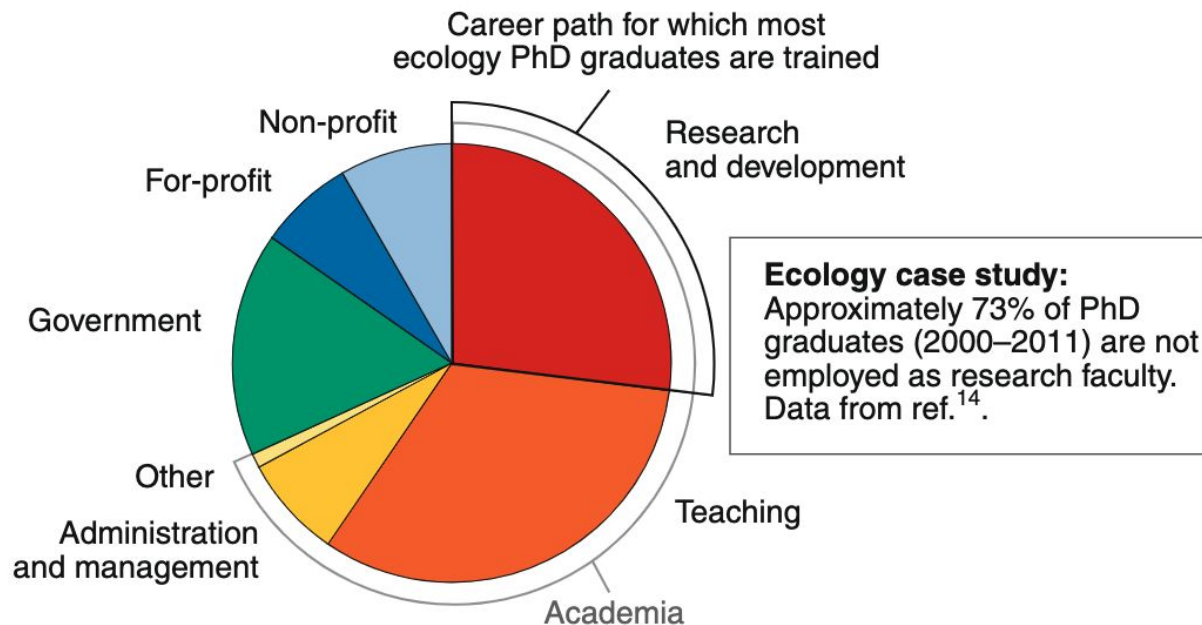


Survey of 9,984 individuals who received PhD in Ecology between 1968-2011

Most ecology doctorate recipients have found jobs related to ecology

- Only 3.3% were involuntarily unemployed
- Only 5.6% of all employed ecology Ph.D. recipients reported that their job is not related to ecology.

Survey of ~3800 employed recent ecology PhD recipients (received their doctorate between 2000-2011)



Survey of ~3800 employed recent ecology PhD recipients (received their doctorate between 2000-2011)

| Employment sector | Of total (%) | Women (%) | Years since Ph.D. (mean) | Salary (mean) |
|--------------------------|--------------|-----------|--------------------------|---------------|
| Academia | 68.2 | 51.4 | 7.9 | \$62,530 |
| Tenured/tenure track | 40.6 | 43.0 | 7.9 | \$67,567 |
| Not tenure track | 27.6 | 63.8 | 7.9 | \$55,115 |
| Government | 16.5 | 43.8 | 7.0 | \$84,900 |
| Non-profit | 8.3 | 68.0 | 7.9 | \$74,722 |
| For-profit/self-employed | 7.0 | 66.5 | 8.8 | \$82,873 |

Best and worst reasons to go to grad school

Best reasons to go

- Your career goal requires an advanced degree, such as a professor, lawyer or doctor
- You want to specialize in a subject you feel is of great importance to you
- You want to advance in your career or change career directions
- You want or need to gain a certain level of certification or licensure

Worst reasons to go

- You don't want to get a job
- You want to postpone paying student loans
- You don't know what you want to do
- You don't think you can get a job
- You really like college and think graduate school is going to be just as fun

Session Overview

- Elevator pitches!
- Grad School: Bird's eye view
- **Panel: Why I did/did not choose a PhD**
- Reflection Time
- Concluding Remarks

Panel: Why I did/did not choose a PhD

Introductions!

- Educational background
- Current position
- What made you decide to pursue the degree & position you hold?



Liz Allen



**Dr. Emilia
Huerta-Sanchez**



Dr. Kristin Lee



Amanda Haas



Kevin Travis

Panel: Why I did/did not choose a PhD

Introductions!

- Educational background
- Current position
- What made you decide to pursue the degree & position you hold?

Breakout groups

- Navigate through breakout rooms with panelists
- A halfway message will be sent - switch rooms frequently!



Liz Allen



Dr. Emilia
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Dr. Kristin Lee



Amanda Haas



Kevin Travis

Session Overview

- Elevator pitches!
- Grad School: Bird's eye view
- Panel: Why I did/did not choose grad school
- **Reflection Time**

Reflection time in breakout rooms

- How has this program changed your perspective on graduate school?
 - What is something that grad school could offer you that a job couldn't and vice versa?
 - Do you think grad school is right for you?
- Any other last minute questions?













Workshop Feedback

Your feedback is important to us. Please take a few minutes to complete evaluations for this session.



Is this Right for Me?

tinyurl.com/preview21feedback

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