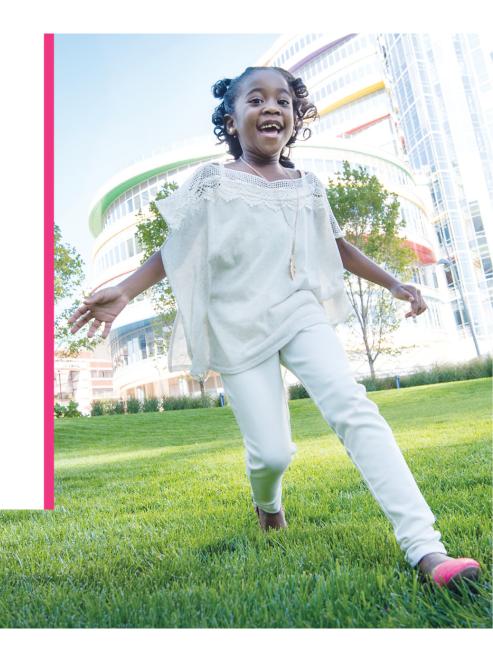
DEVELOPING YOUR MISSION AND VALUES

Audrey R. Odom John MD PhD

Stanley Plotkin Endowed Chair Chief, Infectious Diseases Twitter: @odomjohnlab

Oct 19, 2020 IDSA Pediatric Fellow's Day

Children's Hospital of Philadelphia



MANY PATHS



FTE "PIE"

17% clinical
33% administration
(chief and FPD)
50% research
= 100% FTE



https://www.pids.org/news/619-unlocking-the-black-box-of-pediatric-id-ftes.html

- 1. You've Got to Collect All the Information
- 2. You've Got to Chill Out
- 3. You've Got to Know All the Options
- 4. You've Got to Keep a List
- 5. You've Got to Keep Things in Perspective

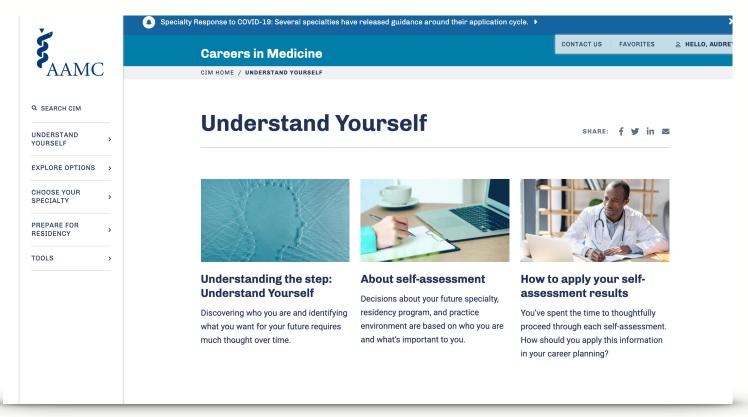
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1. You've Got to Collect All the Information

You absolutely cannot make a series of good decisions without first confronting the brutal facts.

- Jim Collins

YOU'VE GOT TO COLLECT ALL THE INFORMATION: SELF ASSESSMENT



https://www.aamc.org/cim/understand-yourself

YOU'VE GOT TO COLLECT ALL THE INFORMATION: MENTORSHIP



- "role model" mentor
- leader/mentor
- will likely have >1 mentor/advisor
- OK to think *outside* your institution (especially now)!

YOU'VE GOT TO COLLECT ALL THE INFORMATION: WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT TO YOU?

- geography
- committed effort (e.g., AMS, IP&C) vs. RVUs vs. grants
- schedule flexibility (research) vs. dedicated hours (outpatient clinic)
- opportunities for advanced leadership roles
- your passion:
 - chance to work within clinical niche (e.g., onco-ID, neuro-ID, HIV)
 - chance to do specific operational work (ASP, IP&C, public health)
 - chance to advance research area of interest

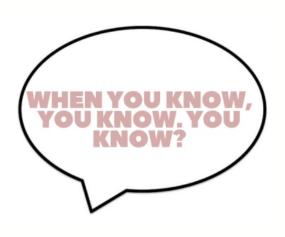
WHAT WOULD YOU GIVE UP IF EVERYTHING ELSE IS PERFECT?

YOU'VE GOT TO COLLECT ALL THE INFORMATION: WHAT IS MOST IMPORTANT TO YOU?

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YOU GET TO DEFINE WHAT SUCCESS LOOKS LIKE FOR YOU

YOU'VE GOT TO COLLECT ALL THE INFORMATION: HOW DO YOU FIND YOUR PASSION?





THE
NOBLEST
QUESTION
IN THE
WORLD IS,
"WHAT
GOOD MAY I
DO IN IT?"

You "just know"

"role model"

"mission-driven"

YOU'VE GOT TO COLLECT ALL THE INFORMATION:

WHAT IF YOU FIND IT ALL INTERESTING? HOW TO CHOOSE?

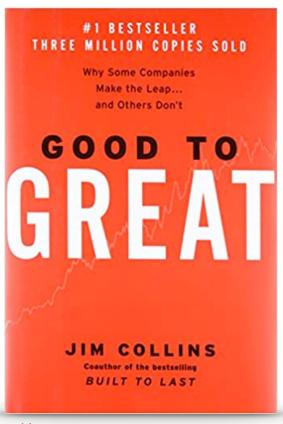
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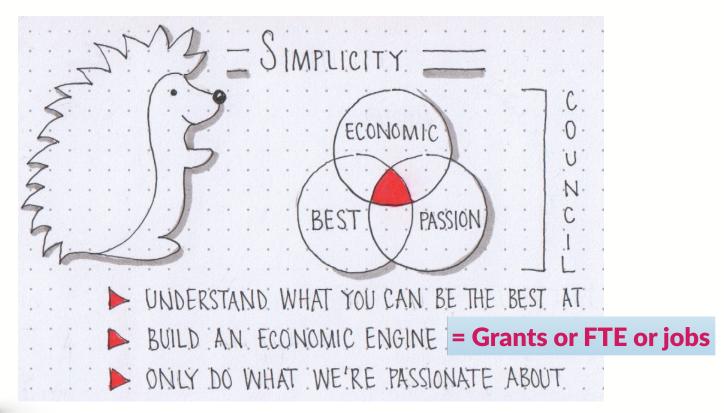


Go back to your mentors!

Don't forget your former mentors

YOU'VE GOT TO COLLECT ALL THE INFORMATION: WHAT IF YOU FIND IT ALL INTERESTING? HOW TO CHOOSE?





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YOU'VE GOT TO CHILL OUT: THE RIGHT FRAME OF MIND



- Start planning and thinking early reduce time-pressure
- goal = fact-based, unhurried decisions
- when in doubt: sleep on it

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https://www.themuse.com/advice/heres-how-to-make-big-career-decisions-you-wont-regret

YOU'VE GOT TO KNOW ALL THE OPTIONS: IT'S NOT JUST EITHER/OR!



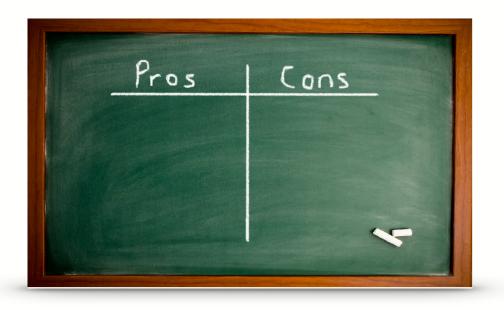
- OK to take "one from column A" and "one from column B"
- OK to craft your own path
 - e.g., clinical informatics
- relative size of each role can change over time

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YOU'VE GOT TO KEEP A LIST:



- may help you organize your thoughts
- especially helpful for decisions over time (keep coming back to your list)
- some things will have higher priority than other (maybe rank items?)

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YOU'VE GOT TO KEEP THINGS IN PERSPECTIVE



THE CAREER PATH IT SEEMS EVERYONE HAS HAD



THE CAREER PATH MOST FACULTY HAVE ACTUALLY HAD

Women Physicians: Choosing a Career in Academic Medicine

Nicole J. Borges, PhD, Anita M. Navarro, MEd, and Amelia C. Grover, MD

- Interviews with 53 women physicians in academic medicine on career decision-making
- Over half (55%) at Associate/Full Professor level
- 75% sub-specialists

- Fit (personality)
- Aspects of academic environment (mobility, teaching, variety, flexibility)
- People (mentors, role models, colleagues)

[A]s I was doing my fellowship, I came into contact with academic [specialists] who I sort of found [to be] mentors and people I looked up to, and I thought "I want to be just like them."

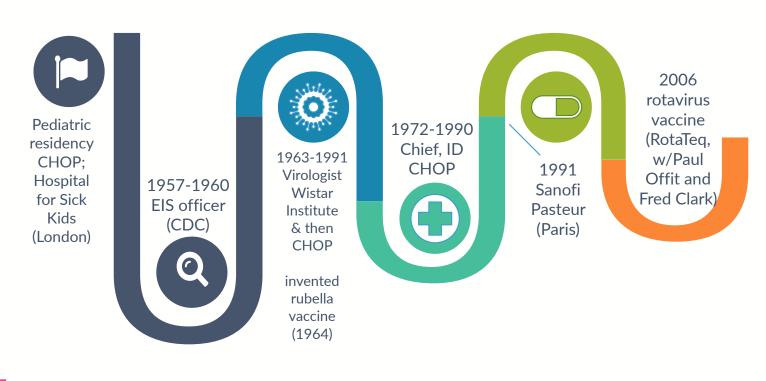
mentors and role models

- I kind of fell into it ... when I finished up my training there was a job available at the academic hospital where I did my fellowship. So, it was just very convenient to stay [in] academic medicine.
- [W]hen I completed residency and was looking for jobs, my residency program offered me a position on faculty and I wasn't having a whole lot of luck at the time finding prospects, and I took the job and have been here ever since.
- I'm not sure ... that I made a conscious choice to choose academic medicine as a medical career ... it was just that I never really thought about anything else.... I actually never considered anything else.

people don't always make decisions based on pros/cons

YOU'VE GOT TO KEEP THINGS IN PERSPECTIVE: A FINAL ANECDOTE: STANLEY PLOTKIN

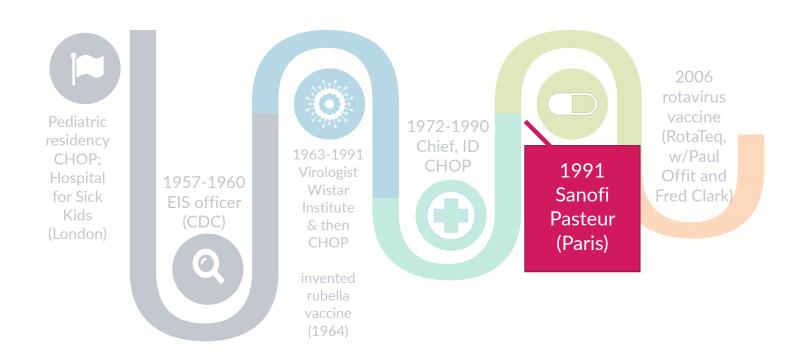
INVENTOR OF THE RUBELLA VACCINE





YOU'VE GOT TO KEEP THINGS IN PERSPECTIVE: A FINAL ANECDOTE: STANLEY PLOTKIN

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YOU'VE GOT TO KEEP THINGS IN PERSPECTIVE: A FINAL ANECDOTE: STANLEY PLOTKIN

In 1991, he was offered a job in Paris as medical and scientific director of the vaccine manufacturing company that would become sanofi pasteur. "The prospect of leaving academia was not one I had previously considered," he later wrote, "and I dithered about [the decision] for several months, until one day, during a visit to Paris, I stood on the Pont des Arts, with the River Seine flowing beneath my feet, looking out at Notre Dame and the Ile de la Cité, and like Henry IV decided that Paris was worth the risk."

YOU'VE GOT TO KEEP THINGS IN PERSPECTIVE THE 2020 VERSION



- This is not a normal year
- Baseline anxiety is higher
- Priorities may be shifted temporarily or forever
- Try to be patient with yourself
- Get help when/if you need it