

## Professional Development Matrix

Resource	Networking	Job search	Skill Development	Professional Development*	Self-promotion**
Plantae.org	x	x	x	x	x
IPPN	X		x		
LinkedIn	x	x		x	x
Usajobs.gov		x			x
NSF		x	x	x	
Google Scholar	x				x
Science (AAAS)		x	x	x	x
Nature careers		x		x	
Elsevier – Researcher Ac				x	
myIDP		x	x	x	
Versatile PhD	x	x		x	x
Northeast-Midwest Inst.		x		x	
Chronicle of Higher Ed		x		x	
Inside Higher Ed		x		x	
Library of Congress		x		x	
Academia.edu	x	x			x
ResearchGate	x	x			x
AAAS webinar series			x	x	
Peer-reviewed Journals		x			x
ASPB – <i>Plant Science today</i>	x	x		x	x
ASEE		x		x	x
ISCB	x	x	x	x	x
IEEE	x	x	x	x	x
ASME	x	x	x	x	x
ASABE	x	x	x	x	x
NAE		x	x	x	x
Erdős Number					x
Nextbillion.net		x		x	
Skoll foundation		x		x	x
Idealist		x			
Green Jobs Network		x			
Cheeky Scientist	x	x		x	
Policyjobs.net		x			
Jobs on Toast		x		x	
HERC		x		x	x
Policyjobs.net		x			

\* Includes opportunities for learning, advice, professional news and/or research tools

\*\* Includes sharing your bio, research summary, presentations and publications

## Plantae

From their [website](#), “Plantae is the global community and knowledge hub for plant scientists. It is a foundation created for the sole purpose of bringing together the plant science community in one place, so that we can have a strong collective presence and voice. Plantae has several hubs: an online community, a resource/learning hub, and a job board. Here you will find the tools you need to grow your career, connect and collaborate with others, and learn new things.”

## International Plant Phenotyping Network (IPPN)

From their [website](#), “International Plant Phenotyping Network is an association representing the major plant phenotyping centers.

IPPN aims to provide all relevant information about plant phenotyping. The goal is to increase the visibility and impact of plant phenotyping and enable cooperation by fostering communication between stakeholders in academia, industry, government, and the general public. Through workshops and symposia, IPPN seeks to establish different working groups and distribute all relevant information about plant phenotyping in a web-based platform.”

## Usajobs.gov

[USAJOBS](#) connects job seekers with federal employment opportunities across the United States and around the world. This is the Federal Government’s official employment site, so jobs in all government agencies are listed and clearly marked with respect to who can apply (citizens, veterans, etc), but be sure to check if you qualify.

## National Science Foundation

Sign up for their weekly digests, which feature interesting articles on the latest funded research and current job openings. To sign up for these mailings, go to the [NEWS](#) page to sign up for news alerts and [ABOUT NSF](#) for [career opportunity](#) alerts.

## Google Scholar

If you have a Google account (your @iastate.edu or Gmail account), then you can create a Google [Scholar](#) account. File out a scholarly profile, link to your published works, and gather recommended articles (which are compiled based on the interests you select). You can even create alerts to notify you when someone cites your work and for articles that may help you with your research. Scholar tracks your citations and assigns you an h-index and an i10-index.

## Science careers (AAAS)

Visit the careers [website](#) from Science magazine (supported by AAAS) to find the latest academic and research jobs. You’ll also find great career advice and tools to land your next position.

## Individual Development Plan (myIDP)

[myIDP](#) is a career planning tool provided by AAAS on their Science careers website. Use this tool to gain perspective on the intrinsic motivators that drive your work: should you be a scientist or consultant? Do you prefer to work alone or as part of a team? This career tool also provides webinars, networking opportunities and advice. You can use it to structure your path forward, from graduate student to employee.

## Technology and Career Webinars (AAAS)

View [webinars](#) in real time or watch archived videos of the latest technological advances, theoretical breakthroughs and career advice. Registration is typically free and a reminder with a link to the event is sent to your inbox. Make the search for cool new techniques easy by setting up a webinar alert through the website.

## Northeast-Midwest Institute

From their [website](#): “The Northeast-Midwest Institute is a Washington, D.C.-based, nonprofit, nonpartisan public policy organization committed to economic vitality, environmental quality, and regional equity for the 18 states of the Northeast and Midwest. As a policy-focused institute with a 40-year track record of producing first-rate research, developing policy options, and building and supporting regional coalitions, the Institute has unique standing in that it was founded in response to calls by the Congressional Northeast-Midwest Coalition for a stable and trusted source of regional data and research as well as policy options and analysis. It is precisely these roots and relationships on Capitol Hill which now position the Northeast-Midwest Institute to chart a future that encompasses an expanded agenda of critical regional issues and to embark on a strategy to achieve increased impact.”

## The Chronicle of Higher Education

[The Chronicle of Higher Education](#) covers the latest news from colleges and universities. As a news leader in higher education, the Chronicle delivers real-time news, professional advice and insights into the academy. A job board provides current openings at US and international colleges and universities.

## Inside Higher Ed

Inside Higher Ed is an online source for higher education news, thought leadership, careers and resources. Their mission is “to serve all of higher education - individuals, institutions, corporations and non-profits - so they can do their jobs better, transforming their lives and those of the students they serve” (from their [website](#)). Use this resource to search for jobs, gain career advice and read the latest news from academe.

## Library of Congress

From their [website](#), “The Library of Congress is the largest library in the world, with millions of books, recordings, photographs, newspapers, maps and manuscripts in its collections. The Library is the main research arm of the U.S. Congress and the home of the U.S. Copyright Office.

The Library preserves and provides access to a rich, diverse and enduring source of knowledge to inform, inspire and engage you in your intellectual and creative endeavors. Whether you are new to the Library of Congress or an experienced researcher, we have a world-class staff ready to assist you online and in person.”

## Academia.edu

From their [website](#), “Academia.edu is a platform for academics to share research papers. The company's mission is to accelerate the world's research.”

Use this website to build a professional/research network, share your publications (in accordance with the appropriate use agreement), and build a researcher profile.

## ResearchGate

Use this free [service](#) to: 1) read and discuss publication relevant to your work, 2) advertise your own work, 3) get updates on the impact of your research/publications, and 4) connect with other researchers. This site is used by both private and public sector researchers from all disciplines. Use this website to build a professional/research network, share your publications (in accordance with the appropriate use agreement), and build a researcher profile.

## LinkedIn

The mission of [LinkedIn](#) is to connect the world's professionals to make them more productive and successful. Sign up and create a profile to build a professional network, advertise yourself and look for jobs. You can upload your published works and presentations to your profile for wider readership, so long as you abide by the respective fair use agreements.

## Green Jobs Network

[greenjobsearch.org](#), a service of Green Jobs Network, is a leading job board for environmental and sustainability careers. Our service has been used by hundreds of organizations including The Nature Conservancy and WWF.

## Nextbillion.net

[NextBillion](#) is a community of business leaders, social entrepreneurs, NGO managers, policy makers, academics and others exploring the connection between development and enterprise.

NextBillion chronicles new trends in market solutions to poverty that benefit the world's 4 billion low-income producers and consumers – often known as the base of the pyramid. The site features in-depth analysis and opinion from thought leaders and researchers – as well as on-the-ground insights from social entrepreneurs. NextBillion also offers an editor-curated newsfeed, a calendar of important events, and a career center with continuously updated job opportunities across the “development through enterprise” market sector.

## Skoll foundation ([skollworldforum.org](#))

Each year, the world's most influential social entrepreneurs, key thought leaders, and strategic partners gather at the University of Oxford's Saïd Business School to exchange ideas and activate solutions.

The Skoll World Forum on Social Entrepreneurship is the premier international platform for advancing entrepreneurial solutions to the world's most pressing problems. Our mission is to accelerate the impact of the world's leading social entrepreneurs by uniting them with essential partners in a collaborative pursuit of learning, leverage, and large-scale social change.

## ASPB – *Plant Science today*

From the [blog](#) website, “This blog is dedicated to facilitating an ongoing conversation around the importance and relevance of plant science around the globe.” [ASPB](#) is a professional society that is devoted to the advancement of plant science, pure and simple. The organization publishes three journals (*Plant Direct*, *The Plant Cell*, and *Plant Physiology*) and holds an annual conference, among other activities.

## **American Society for Engineering Education (ASEE)**

From ASEE [website](#): “ASEE connects you to a world of research and a wealth of information right at your fingertips. Our professional development opportunities, publications, and conferences provide you access to the best practices and latest trends in engineering education and teaching methods. You can also stay up to date with fellowship opportunities or government and industry research programs, share scholarly research in peer-reviewed conference proceedings or read about emerging trends or the latest engineering technologies in our award-winning publication, Prism Magazine. ASEE is the only engineering education society solely dedicated to the professional needs of engineering educators.”

## **Erdős Number Project**

What is your [Erdős number](#)? This is a fun calculation to see how many steps removed you are from renowned mathematician Paul Erdős.

## **Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE)**

From [IEEE](#) website: “IEEE, an association dedicated to advancing innovation and technological excellence for the benefit of humanity, is the world's largest technical professional society. It is designed to serve professionals involved in all aspects of the electrical, electronic, and computing fields and related areas of science and technology that underlie modern civilization.” Becoming a member of this professional organization will give you access to networking opportunities, webinars for skill or professional development, a professional profile and IEEE events and conferences.

## **American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME)**

From ASME [website](#): “ASME is a not-for-profit membership organization that enables collaboration, knowledge sharing, career enrichment, and skills development across all engineering disciplines, toward a goal of helping the global engineering community develop solutions to benefit lives and livelihoods. Founded in 1880 by a small group of leading industrialists, ASME has grown through the decades to include more than 130,000 members in 151 countries... ASME serves this wide-ranging technical community through quality programs in continuing education, training and professional development, codes and standards, research, conferences and publications, government relations and other forms of outreach.”

## **American Society of Agricultural and Biological Engineers (ASABE)**

Check ASABE's [website](#) for the latest awards & competitions, events, publications, standards and job boards. Becoming a member will grant you access to professional development, networking and other resources.

## **National Academy of Engineers (NAE)**

You cannot become a member of this society without being elected by your peers but you can still be involved with NAE through their various [activities](#), including: projects, annual meeting, reports and awards.

## **Nature Careers**

Use this [website](#) to get career advice and search for outstanding job opportunities.

## **Cheeky Scientist**

This [website](#) offers advice on transitioning from an academic to an industry job. It has a strong social media presence so you can find their posts on LinkedIn, Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube. The Cheeky Scientist Association is new, but you there's no need to join to use the materials (blogs, newsletters, pamphlets).

## **Idealist**

[Idealist.org](#) is the standard for finding jobs and volunteer opportunities in advocacy organizations. If you are searching for a career in policy, this website is a good start, but can be overwhelming with all the possibilities. You may want to consider a volunteer opportunity first to better explore the field.

## **Versatile PhD**

Iowa State University does not currently have a membership to this resource, but it is still a great resource to consider. This is a website started by a PhD who wanted to create a career hub for PhDs seeking nonacademic and non-faculty career pathways. This website offers webinars, blogs and other sources of advice on pursuing these careers. You can create a profile and network within the [Versatile PhD](#) community as well as search for jobs.

## **International Society for Computational Biology**

From their [website](#): "Society membership reflects commitment toward the advancement of computational biology. The ISCB is an international non-profit organization whose members come from the global bioinformatics and computational biology communities. The ISCB serves its global membership by providing high-quality meetings, publications, and reports on methods and tools; by disseminating key information about bioinformatics resources and relevant news from related fields; and by actively facilitating training, education, employment, career development, and networking. We advocate and provide leadership for resources and policies in support of scientific endeavors and to benefit society at large. "

## **Relevant Journals**

Whatever journals are your go-tos for the latest research news and papers probably have a table of contents (ToC) service for which you can sign up. With every new issue, the journal(s) will send the ToC directly to your inbox so you get the latest research fast. They also, generally, have a job/event board you can search for latest opportunities and events.

## **Jobs on Toast**

This [blog](#) and website offers various advice on nonacademic career search and connects to other [resources](#) which offer even more advice!

## **Higher Education Recruitment Consortium (HERC)**

[HERC](#) is a great tool for finding a career path in higher education, on and off the tenure track. Not only does the site provide job search, but it also offers career management tools, which include [webinars](#) and career [advice](#).

## **Policy Jobs**

[Policyjobs.net](http://Policyjobs.net) is a favorite resource for finding public policy job vacancies. A range of policy areas covering many disciplines around the world can be found using this website. The site breaks down your search into geographic region and policy areas, refining your search effort.

## **Elsevier – Researcher Academy**

The [Researcher Academy](http://Researcher Academy) is free to join and offers free courses designed to support early and mid-career researchers “on every step of their research journey”. Browse the extensive module catalogue to: learn about obtaining funding for your research, manage research data, improve your writing skills, publish a research paper in a journal with a high impact factor, learn how to review a paper effectively, and how to respond to reviewer comments, among other topics. The website can also help you discover how communicating your work can boost the impact of your research and help you garner citations. The academy will teach you about planning your career strategically, surviving a job search in both industry and academia, and coping with the busy life of a researcher. Researcher Academy relays the latest research news, offers up-to-date advice and delivers hands-on guidance on various professional development topics.