



# Career Planning with iJOBS

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NGS Study Manager, GENEWIZ

Academic Training

Improve communication skills

Path to success



B.S: 2004 - 2008  
Molecular Biology & Science  
Informatics  
Minor: Speech Communication



Ph.D: 2009 - 2015  
Cell & Molecular Biology  
Teaching experience



Postdoc: 2016 - 2019  
Microbiology  
Career Planning -iJOBS



# The iJOBS Journey

Rutgers iJOBS participants follow a phased program:



Sample the program to see if a non-academic career is for you

Focus on a specific career path and apply to program

Ready yourself for career placement and search for a position

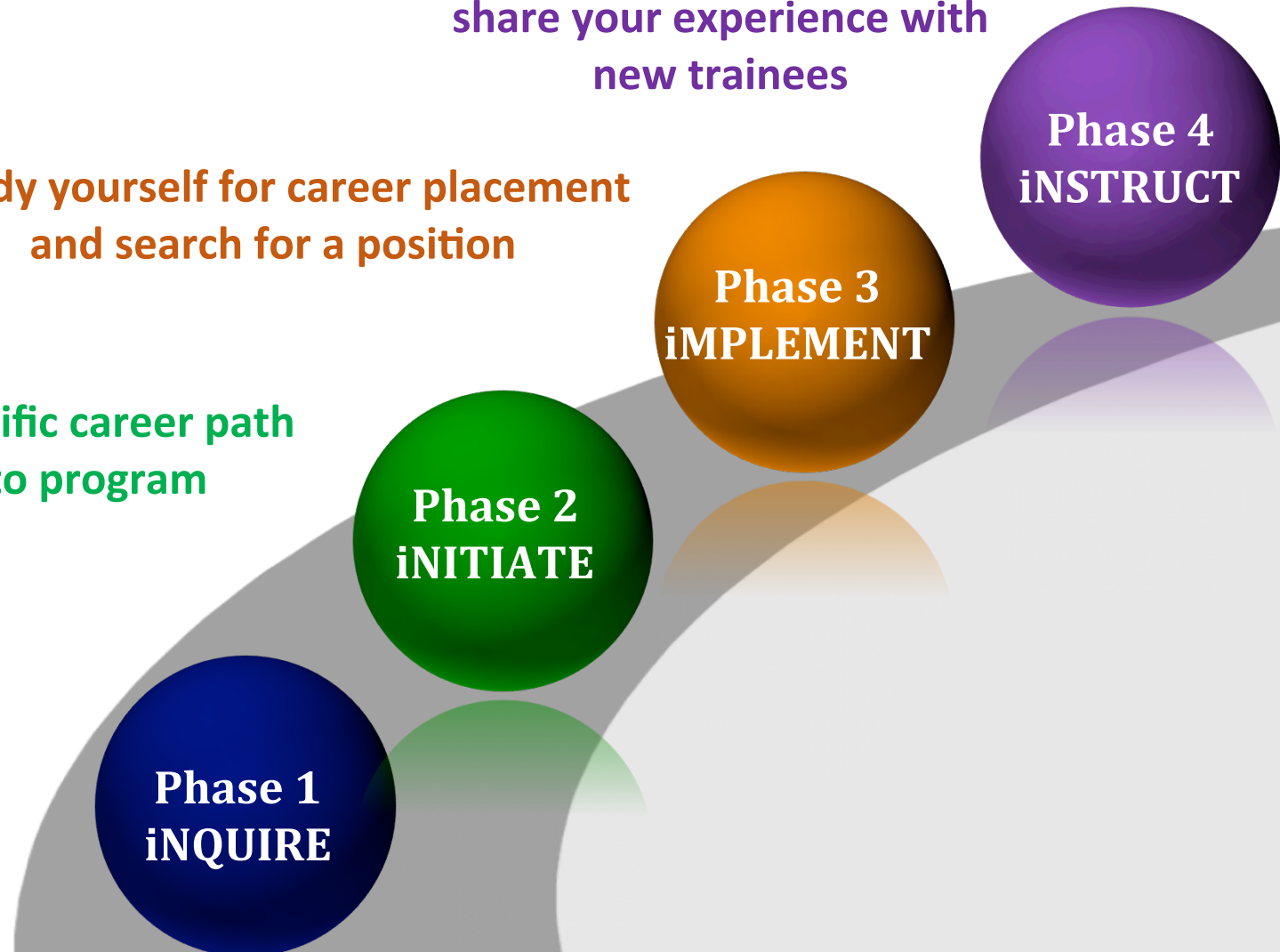
Participate as a mentor & share your experience with new trainees

**Phase 1**  
**iNQUIRE**

**Phase 2**  
**iNITiate**

**Phase 3**  
**iMPLement**

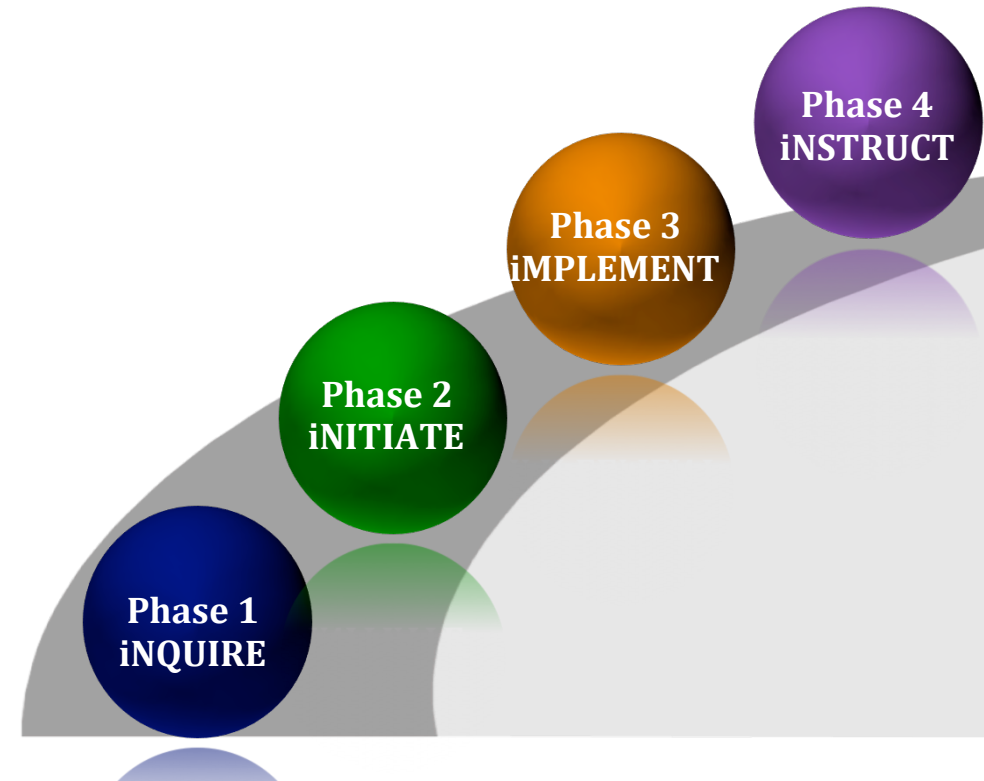
**Phase 4**  
**iNSTRUCT**



# The iJOBS Journey

## Phase 1 Activities: Open to all PhD students and postdocs

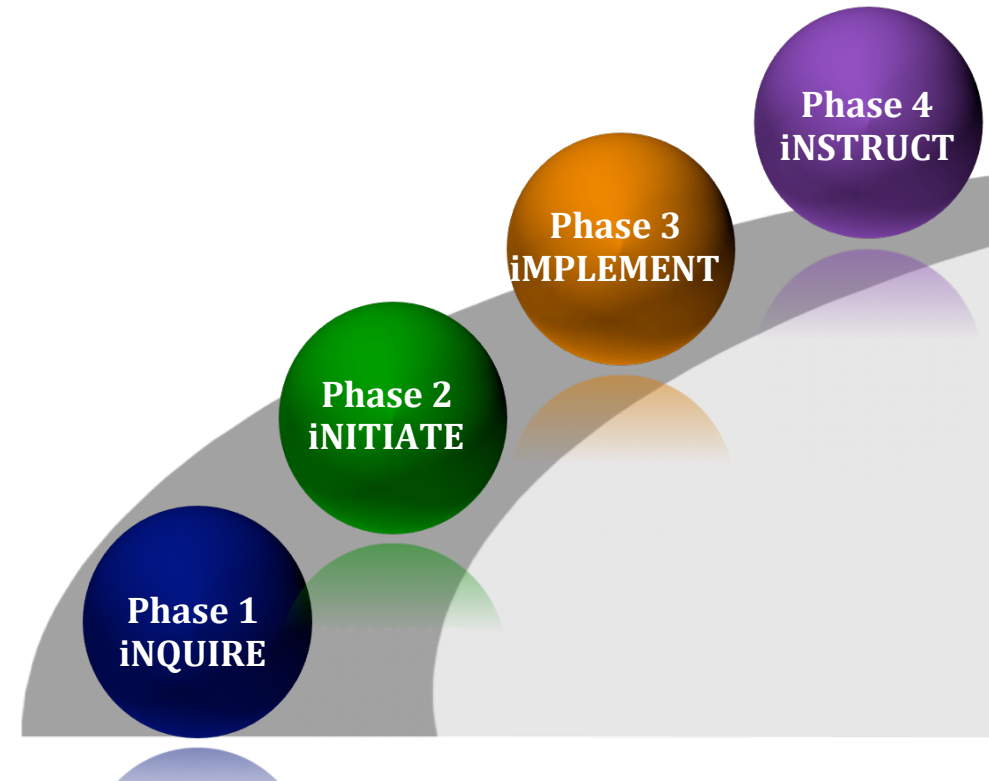
- ❖ Career Panels
  - Science policy, Science writing, Regulatory Affairs
- ❖ Industry Site Visits
  - Regeneron, Novartis, BMS, Kashiv Pharma, Bayer Pharmaceuticals
- ❖ Case Studies, Primers, and Job Simulations
  - Business development, Consulting, Pharma R&D
- ❖ Workshops
  - Bioinformatics
  - **SciPhD Leadership and Business Skills for Scientists**
- ❖ Brand-building and Networking
  - 2Actify – Build an effective LinkedIn Profile
  - Networking events
  - Career fairs



# The iJOBS Journey

## Phase 2: Application-based

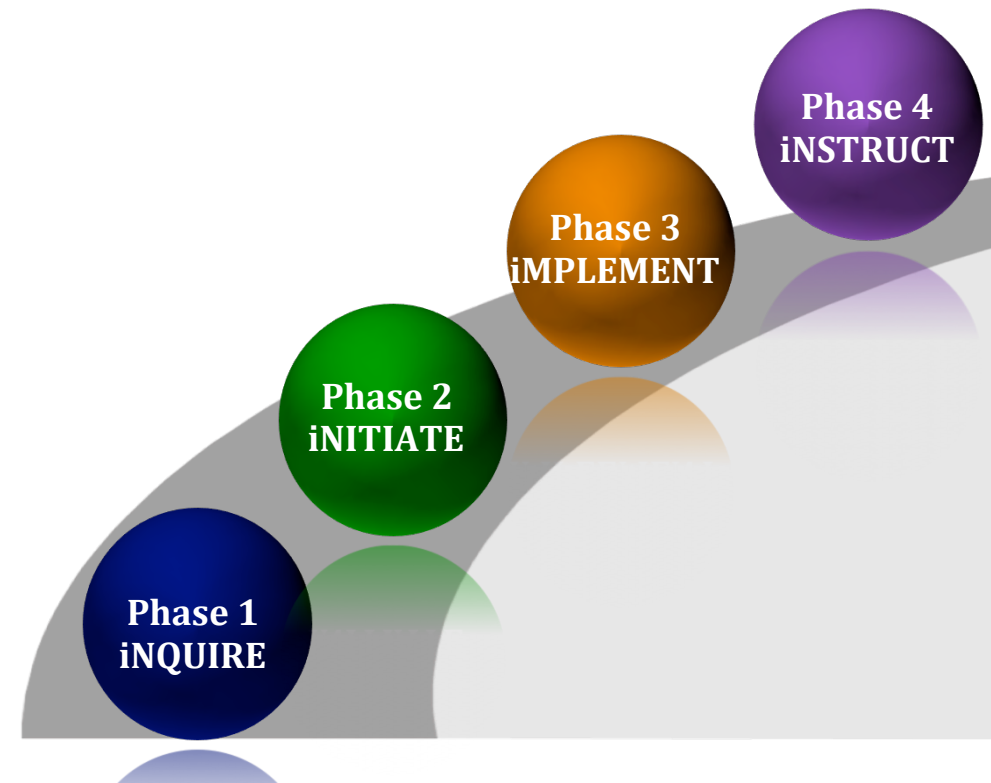
- ❖ Qualifications: 12 hours of phase 1 activities + SciPhD workshop
- ❖ Select a career track
- ❖ Shadow a professional in the field
  - 72hrs of shadowing over a yr
- ❖ Develop an individual development Plan (IDP) and discuss career plans with mentor
- ❖ Complete a 3-credit course at Rutgers



# The iJOBS Journey

## Phase 3: Career placement

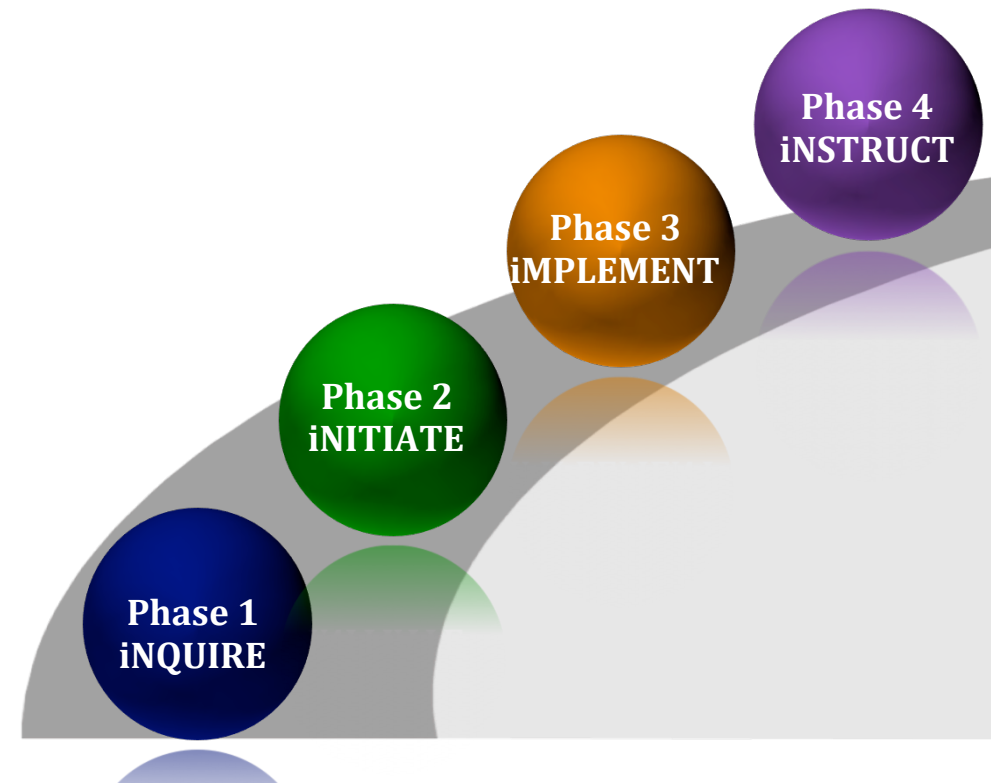
- ❖ Individualized resume and cover letter preparation
- ❖ Interview practice
- ❖ Job searching tools
- ❖ Partner with regional employment programs like BioNJ



# The iJOBS Journey

## Phase 4: Give back

- ❖ Serve as a shadow-host to new trainees
- ❖ Mentor new trainees
- ❖ Participate in networking events, career panels etc



# My iJOBS Journey

- ❖ Phase 1
  - SciPhD Leadership and business skills for scientists
  - iJOBS-BPNG networking
  - 2Actify LinkedIn profile support – [2actify.com](http://2actify.com)
  - Career panels, job primers & workshops
  
- ❖ Phase 2: Project Management
  - Professional shadowing – Merck
  - Shadowed 2 Project Managers
  - Project Management Course at Rutgers business school
  
- ❖ Phase 3:
  - Resume/ cover letter/ interviewing - [PropelCareers.com](http://PropelCareers.com)
  - BioNJ: profile, resume, job boards
  
- ❖ Phase 4:
  - Today





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## ❖ My current role:

- NGS Study Manager at GENEWIZ
- Dual role: technical consultation & project management
- Phase 2 training – great preparation & foundation
- On the job lessons – Organization and Communication

# My iJOBS Journey – other opportunities

- ❖ iJOBS blog - [ijobs.rutgers.edu/blog.php](http://ijobs.rutgers.edu/blog.php)
  - Writing and editing career-oriented pieces
  - Blog post for all iJOBS events
  - Posts about careers, training opportunities, skills development etc
- ❖ BioNJ Inspiring women in Stem conference - <https://bionj.org/event/inspiring-women-in-stem-conference-2018>
  - Networking and skills development
  - LinkedIn profile picture
  - Volunteer opportunities
- ❖ GRO Biotech - [grobiotech.splashthat.com/](http://grobiotech.splashthat.com/)
  - Planning committee for the 2019 GRO Your Career conference
  - Featured career panels and networking sessions
  - Resume and job-search session



# If I could give one piece of advice...

## ❖ Don't wait...START NOW!!!

- Build LinkedIn Profile
- Craft Resumes – academic vs industry vs career-specific language
- Networking – build relationships
- Gain experience, exposure and information
- Increased understanding – want vs. need in a job
- Time to find your own path!
- Prepared - Confidence booster
- You're ready!

