

Workshop on Education in Bioinformatics (WEB09)

**Bioinformatics from an
education perspective: What's
the best kind of training? What
types of jobs are out there?**

Job search from a student perspective

- Industry: Economy made searches in industry harder. Not a lot of jobs or mostly short time (6 months -1 year) specialist jobs (masters) or postdoc/previous experience required for leadership positions.
- Academia: Good CV + **networking** = guaranteed postdoctoral positions
- Plenty of non- academia/industry careers: academic research staff (EBI, Sanger, Broad, ISB,etc), scientific writing, consulting.

Skills that will get you hired

- recognizing what it is that you need but do not know
- effectively communicating with others:
 - those who may be able to provide the necessary components the project
 - making clear how and why the problem is significant
 - and how you can contribute
- working to define practical solutions that are of intellectual interest to all contributors
- seeing the project through to completion.

What is the best kind of training?

“Experience in software engineering, algorithms development, database schema design, and/or statistical analysis are always useful and often essential, but these are far less important than the ability to define a project and see it **through...people who can THINK clearly, and COMMUNICATE effectively with others is what I hire.**”

Former Director Penn Genomic Frontiers
Institute