

Staying in research (and leaving Heidelberg)



Why should you go on the job market?

- Research jobs not in HD only via the market or via similar procedure
 - Get to know people
 - PhDs on the market, Professors
 - Go to USA
 - Salary in USA >100k\$
 - Many good people in USA
 - Stay there for 6 years, come back as W3
 - There are many more good people at unknown places than you think
 - Signal that you take it seriously, even if you target Germany
 - Great feeling if it works out
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Why should you *not* go on the job market?

- A lot of work (but you'd have to do much of it anyway)
 - Finish job market papers
 - Learn about job market
 - Go to conferences
 - Prepare + send applications
 - Go to flyouts
 - Stressful, very frustrating when it does not work out
 - Intersection of universities where you want to go and universities that want you to come might be very small
 - Heidelberg is the most beautiful city in the world
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What positions are available?

- Assistant professor with tenure track
 - 6 years +
 - Assistant professor/postdoc without tenure track
 - 4-6 years
 - Postdoc
 - 1-2 years
 - Research departments of central banks also use the job market
 - CB's of EMU, Sweden, US, Norway, Germany, Hungary
 - Sometimes direct lifetime position
 - Most international organizations hire through their webpages
 - OECD, BIS, IMF, World Bank, EU Commission, EBRD, EIB...
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To do until October

- Job market paper
 - Ideal: single author, AER potential, theory and empirics
 - Talk to supervisor about plans
 - 3 reference letters: advisor + 2 known professors that think highly of you
 - Prepare "the package" (send packages in October)
 - Very short standard cover letter (see examples). Mention conferences
 - CV (do as Harvard/Chicago/Yale PhDs do)
 - Job market paper(s), may include link to updated version
 - Research, teaching, and diversity statement (not always)
 - Website (Photo, Contact, CV, Papers)
 - Put yourself on AWI site of job market candidates (Timo)
 - Book flight + hotel for ASSA/European Job Market
(as soon as possible, best is now, maybe already too late, esp. hotel)
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To do in October / November

- Send out applications
 - Normally deadlines around thanksgiving (end of November)
 - But some are earlier, e.g., Max Weber Prg (EUI)
 - Apply for conferences in Europe and US (on-site registration is also possible)
 - Check regularly for new openings
 - More on the webpages later
 - Can also ask professors in universities directly
 - Organize trial presentation, in internal seminar or elsewhere. Invite also people outside your area of research.
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To do in December

- Prepare interviews
 - 1, 2, 5 minutes on each of your papers
 - List of FAQ
 - Mock interviews
 - Trial presentation
 - Advisor calls/mails people
 - Go to European Job Market conference
 - Wait for interview requests for ASSA (very annoying) and schedule them
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Conferences

- Europe
 - ASSA, USA

 - How does an interview look like?
 - Hotel room, 1-5 interviewers
 - 20-30 minutes
 - First question: "Tell us about your research"
 - More questions on
 - Other papers
 - Future work
 - In which area will you work
 - Overarching theme of your research
 - See FAQ
 - Teaching often just courses, not content (more relevant for Europe)
 - Check webpages before, prepare own questions
 - May ask before for information (e.g., list of interviewers)
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To do in January

- ASSA conference
 - Buy and wear suit and shoes before (same valid for shaving...)
 - Wait for flyouts
 - Flyouts
 - They pay (afterwards)
 - 90 min presentation of job market paper
 - ~10 x 30min interview
 - Breakfast, lunch & dinner with professors/grad students (depending on place)
 - Interviews
 - Questions about other papers
 - Future projects, research agenda
 - Past/possible teaching
 - Get informed before, prepare own questions
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If you want to be like the guys from Harvard...

- 120-200 applications (definitely use a mail-merge document)
 - Road to success
 - Very good reference letters from known professors
 - Great job market paper and good presentation
 - Already a (good) publication
 - Or a good R&R
 - But most of the times, applicants don't have publications yet
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Websites/Resources

- Hints and links (including this presentation) on enders.droppages.com
 - EEA job market: www.eeassoc.org/econjobmarket.php
 - JOE: www.aeaweb.org/JOE
 - www.inomics.com
 - econjobmarket.org
 - SSRN Newsletter
 - In Germany: www.academics.de
 - Rumors: www.econjobrumors.com/wiki.php
 - Jobs in UK: www.jobs.ac.uk
 - Harvard website: search google for harvard economics job market
 - Sample CVs on websites of Harvard, Stanford, Chicago, Yale, ...
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