INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC JOBS – EUROPE / UK

Dr Antonina Mikocka-Walus, Associate Professor, HDR-Coordinator, School of Psychology
2002: Completed MA(Psych) at Warsaw Uni (Poland)
2003: Completed MA in International Relations at Warsaw School of Economics/Sciences Politiques de Paris (Poland / France)
2008: Completed PhD in Medicine and Psychology at Uni of Adelaide (Australia)
2008-2009: Post-doc at Monash University (Australia)
2010: Research Fellow at UniSA (Australia)
2011: Senior Research Fellow at UniSA (Australia)
2013: Senior Lecturer at University of York (UK)
2016: Senior Lecturer at Deakin University (Australia)
2018: Associate Professor at Deakin University (Australia)
WHAT MADE MY INTERNATIONAL MOVES POSSIBLE

- **Poland-France**: Good grades, speaking two foreign languages

- **Poland-Australia**: Good grades, a couple of research papers from Master’s research, a topical area and a good research proposal, good IELTS score, a father who paid for the countless translations of transcripts / reference letters / degrees / birth certificate, etc, luck (supervisors willing to risk supporting an unknown international student)

- **Australia-UK**: international visits and co-authored papers with key UK opinion leaders, career trajectory – many good publications, research funding, a postdoc at Epidemiology at Monash, skills in methods and stats, background in Health Psychology, expertise in e-therapy for mental illness, references from mentors

- **UK-Australia**: good track record – even more good publications, research funding, international profile, teaching experience in chairing units, expertise in health psychology/behavioural medicine, a great reference from a former Australian boss
WHAT DIDN’T MATTER AS MUCH

- Move to the UK: Previous teaching experience – though this was a teaching role it was at a research-intense university, encouraged to shadow experienced lecturers for a year and signed up for a postgraduate certificate in academic practice

- Nobody ever asked about my student evaluations – this may be different for teaching focused roles / institutions
**CAREER STRUCTURE AND SALARY**

### UK (vary between universities)
- Postdoctoral research assistant/Fellow /Assistant or Associate Lecturer (£19,258 - £23,497 – up to $43k)
- Lecturer (£24,202 - £36,524 – up to $68k)
- Senior Lecturer / Reader (equivalent to Associate Professor in AU) (average £44,916 – up to $83k)
- Professor (average £66,282 – up to $123k)

### Germany
- Junior Professor (€49,548 to €57,373 – up to $93k)
- Associate Professor (€60,154 to €72,246 – up to $117k)
- Professor (€68,972 to €82,013 - $134k)

Source: https://academicpositions.com/career-advice/professor-salaries-from-around-the-world
JOB SEARCH EUROPE

- www.jobs.ac.uk
- https://www.timeshighereducation.com/unijobs/
- https://www.myscience.org/jobs
- European Commission-funded jobs: https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/how-to/find-job_en
POSTDOC FUNDING

• www.findapostdoc.com
• University websites
• European Commission funding – Marie Curie Fellowships
There are two types of Individual Fellowships:
- European Fellowships
- Global Fellowships

**European Fellowships:**
- are open to researchers moving within Europe, as well as those coming in from other parts of the world.
- can restart a research career after a break, such as parental leave.
- can help researchers coming back to Europe find a new position.
- These Fellowships are held in the EU or associated countries and last for one to two years.

**Global Fellowships**
- fund positions outside Europe for researchers based in the EU or associated countries.
- last between two and three years.
- the researcher has to come back for one year to an organisation based in the EU or associated countries.
- Both types of Fellowship can also include a secondment period of up to three or six months in another organisation in Europe.
WHO CAN APPLY?
- This action is for experienced researchers from across the world.
- Applicants need a doctoral degree or at least four years’ full-time research experience by the time of the call deadline.

WHAT CAN BE FUNDED?
- All research areas can be funded. MSCA Fellows come from a wide variety of disciplines – from physics to linguistics, and from health-sciences to mathematical modelling.

WHAT THE FUNDING COVERS
- The grant provides an allowance to cover living, travel and family costs. In addition, the EU contributes to the training, networking and research costs of the fellow, as well as to the management and indirect costs of the project. The grant is awarded to the host organisation, usually a university, research centre or a company in Europe.
- More info: https://ec.europa.eu/research/mariecurieactions/
APPLICATION

- A structured proposal (10 pages)
- A short CV
- Budget / ethics form

- Steps: find a partner or two, speak to me about your proposal, submit, win, enjoy what Europe has to offer!
HOW TO SECURE A JOB OVERSEAS

- Focus on what you can bring to a research team (i.e., unique skills) – what is your signature skill / strength?
- Visit laboratories (better than conferences or make appointment to speak with key opinion leaders during conferences). On the visit show lead researchers your work. Need to wow them. This can be with publication or working in their lab.
- Co-author a publication with someone you might want to work with.
- Write you own fellowships.
ONCE THE JOB IS YOURS

- Open a bank account from Australia before you leave
- Have lots of spare cash (everything costs double if you haven’t lived somewhere for at least 5 years – car insurance, gas bills, etc)
- Start looking for a house before you leave home (in some cities it’s very competitive and you have no local references)
- Prepare to work hard (but also don’t forget to have a good time)
- Cultural differences
QUESTIONS?

• Email me: mikocka@Deakin.edu.au
INTERNATIONAL ACADEMIC JOBS – NEW ZEALAND/ USA

Dr Subhadra Evans, Lecturer, School of Psychology
2005: Completed PhD Developmental Psychology at Uni of Canterbury (New Zealand)
2006: Post-doc at Brunel University (U.K)
2007: Post-doc at UCLA (U.S)
2007: Adjunct Lecturer Santa Monica Community College (U.S)
2010: Assistant Professor at UCLA (U.S)
2015: Associate Professor at UCLA (U.S)
2016: Lecturer at Deakin University (Australia)
MOVING: WHAT MADE IT POSSIBLE?

- Networking
- Multiple citizenship
- Comfort with uncertainty
- Willingness to intern
- Holding multiple jobs (community college teaching and post-doc)
- A bit of luck
YOU NEED A STRATEGY

- Do your research
  - What are the funding priorities of the funding agencies you are interested in?
- Track down who has recently secured funding- and get to know the PI (NIH RePORT database)
- Feast or famine landscape- do your homework on who is currently feasting
THE U.S LANDSCAPE

- Very difficult to get tenure
- Soft funding
- Many labs have positions for post-docs (not well paid, and are becoming harder to find)
- Postdocs in the States work very hard and may hold multiple jobs if living in an expensive city
Facing poverty, academics turn to sex work and sleeping in cars

Adjunct professors in America face low pay and long hours without the security of full-time faculty. Some, on the brink of homelessness, take desperate measures.
IT’S NOT ALL BLEAK!

- Many institutions will provide opportunities to compensate for a lack of permanent, well paid work
- Inspiring mentors and guest speakers
- Life-long opportunities for collaboration
- Preview cutting edge technology- where things are headed
GROUP ACTIVITY

- What is your plan of becoming an academic? Post-doc / teaching roles? Australia / internationally?
- How are you planning to get there? Step-by-step starting today...
- Discuss the skills you have at the moment. Are these common skills that other PhDs working in your general area have?
- Discuss what new skills you need to develop to have something to offer that few others have in your field
- Find key opinion leaders via pubmed / researchgate