



# (What) to be or not to be:

Finding the intersection of  
interest and worth

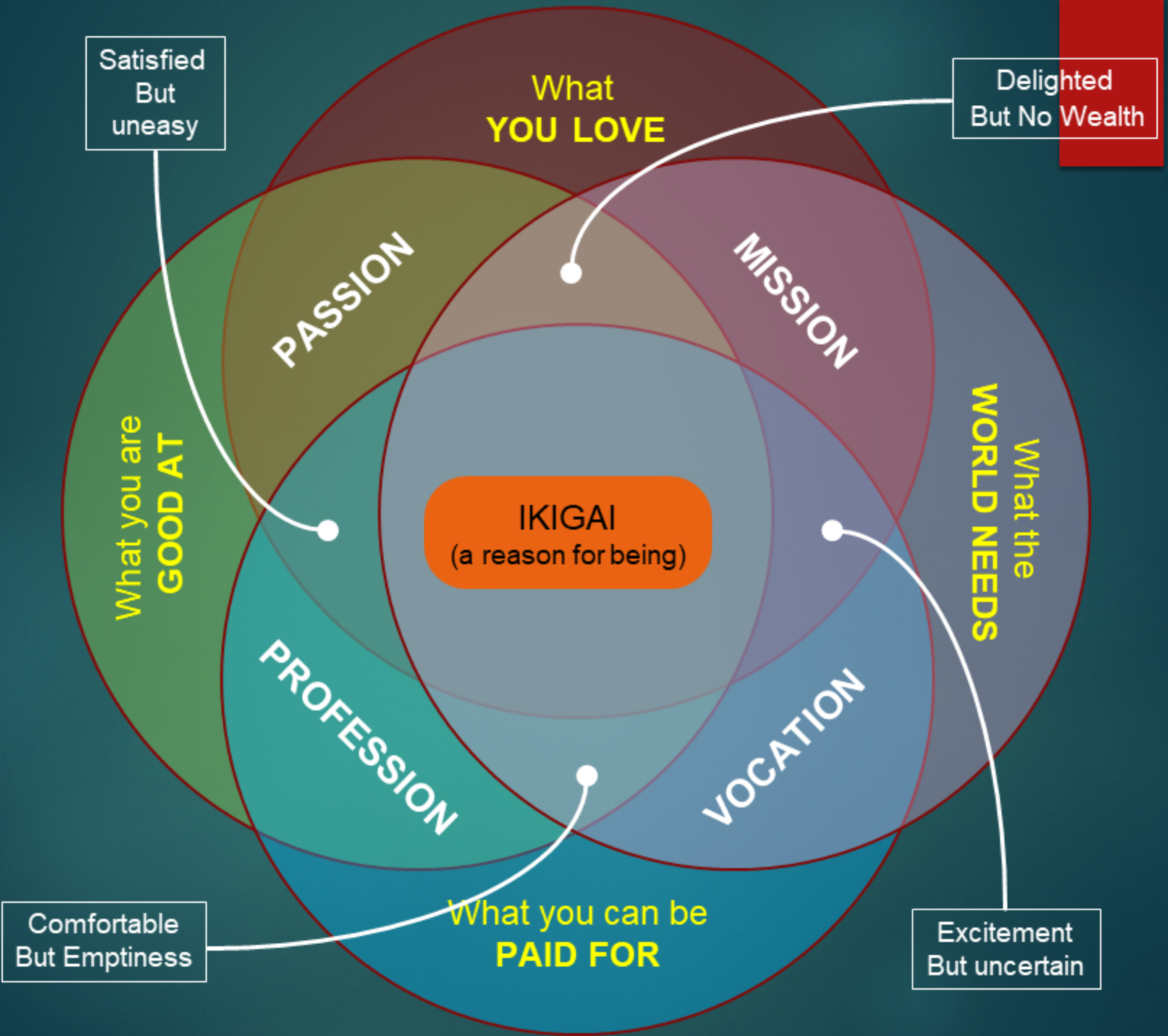
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*RAMALINGASWAMI FELLOW*

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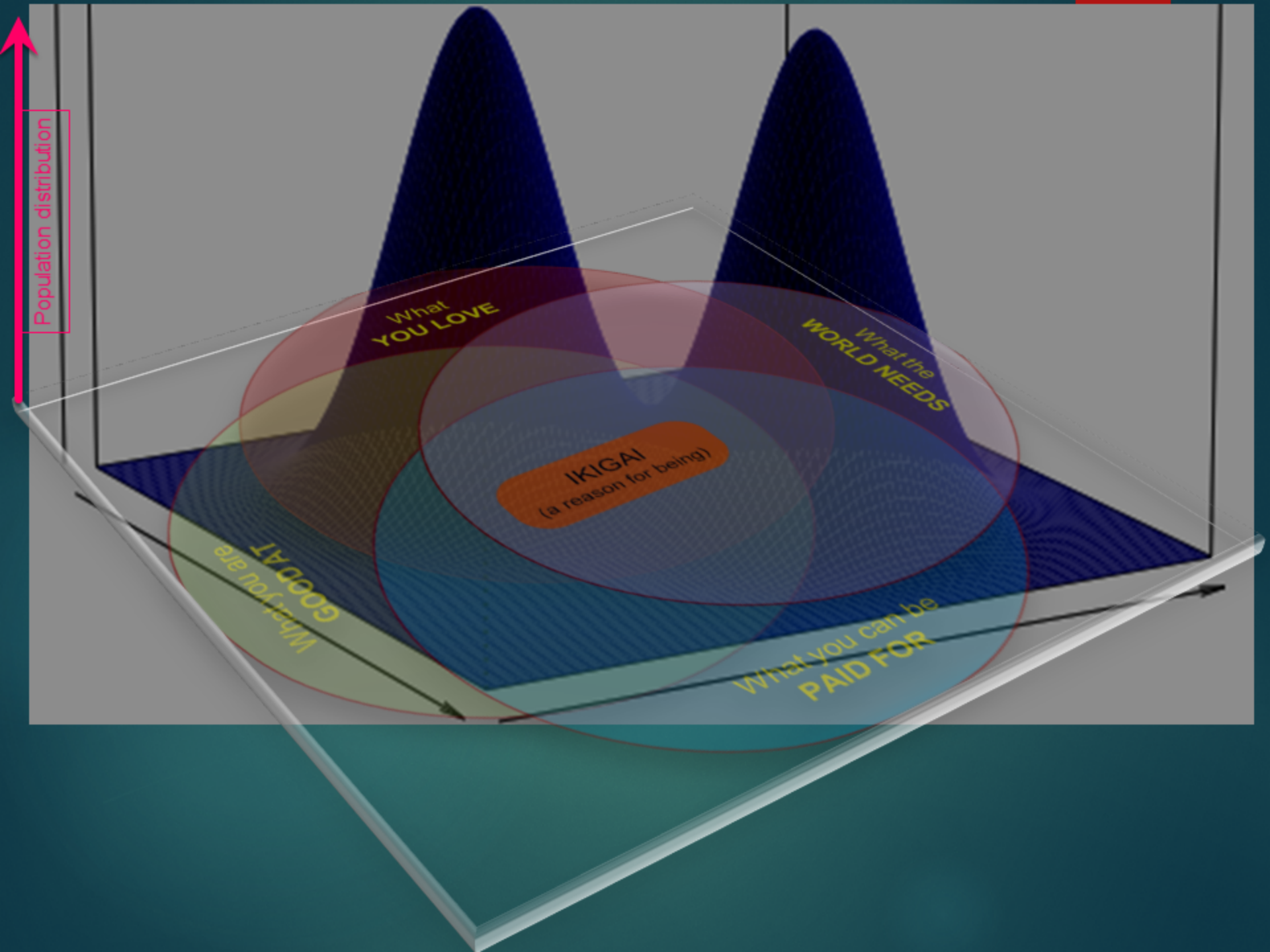


Comfortable  
But Emptiness

Excitement  
But uncertain

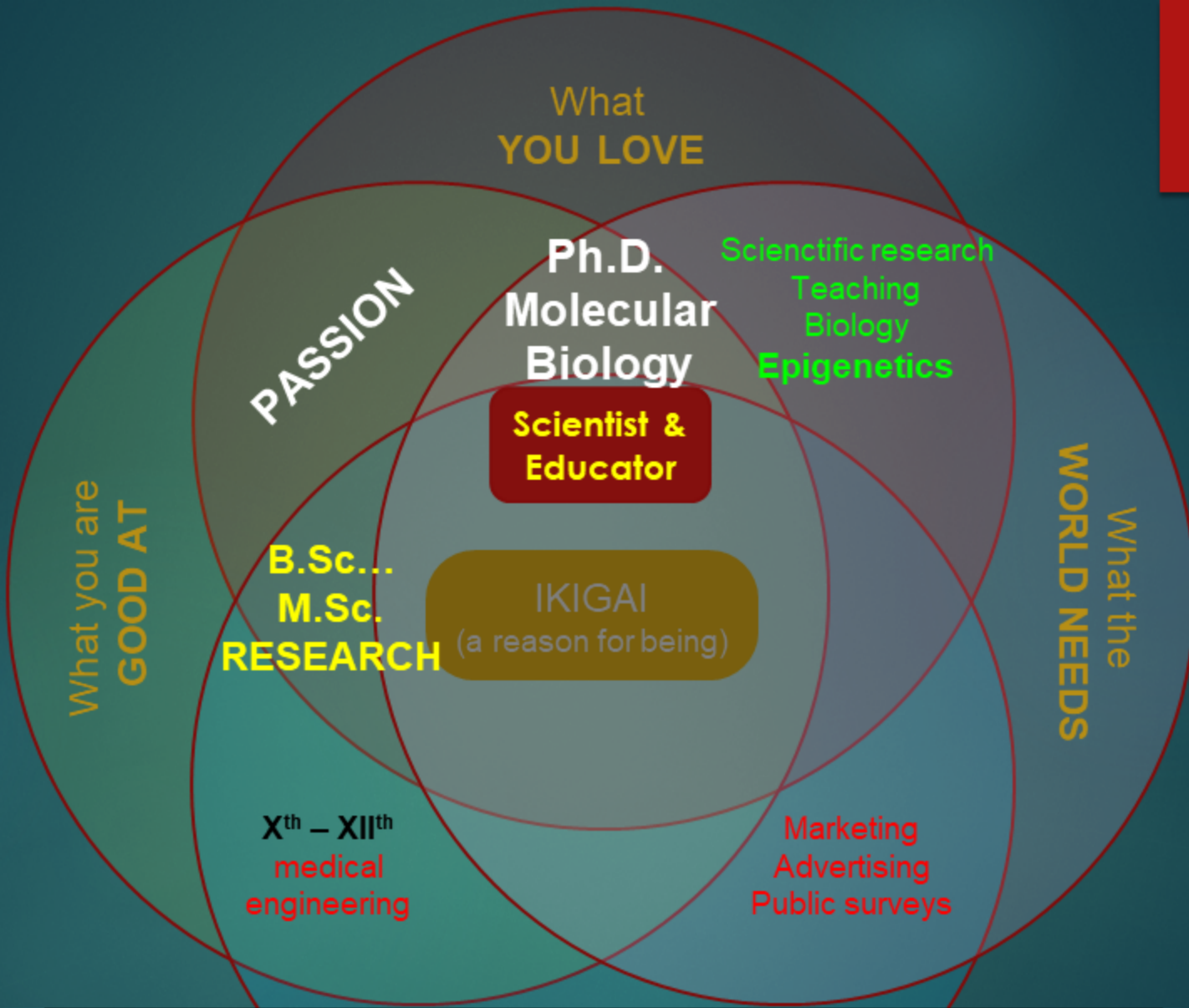
Satisfied  
But  
uneasy

Delighted  
But No Wealth





# My Journey so far....



**Take-home message:  
Picking a career is a lifelong never-ending process**

Academic  
Research



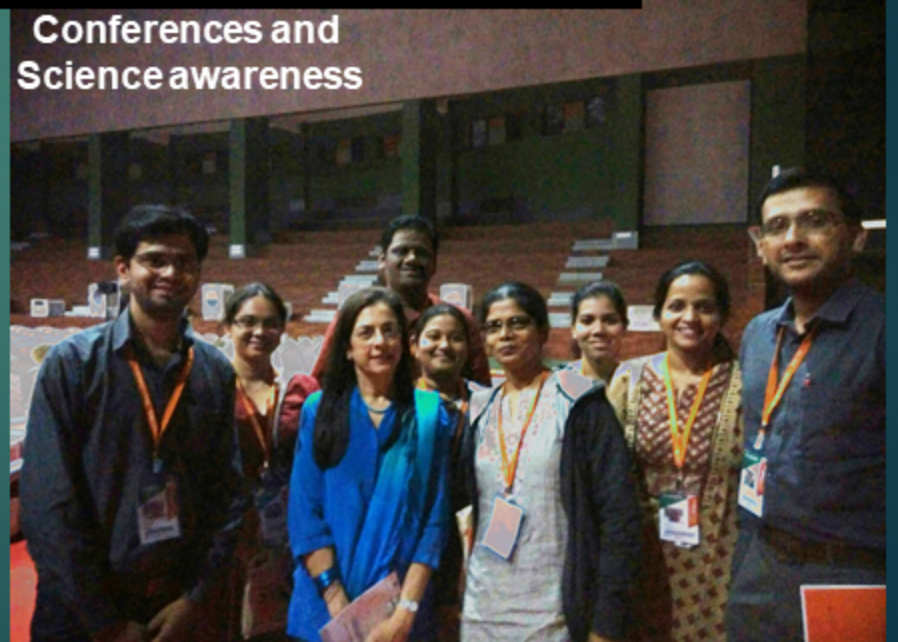
Non-Academic  
duties



**What do I do – ensure a variety of tasks at hand**

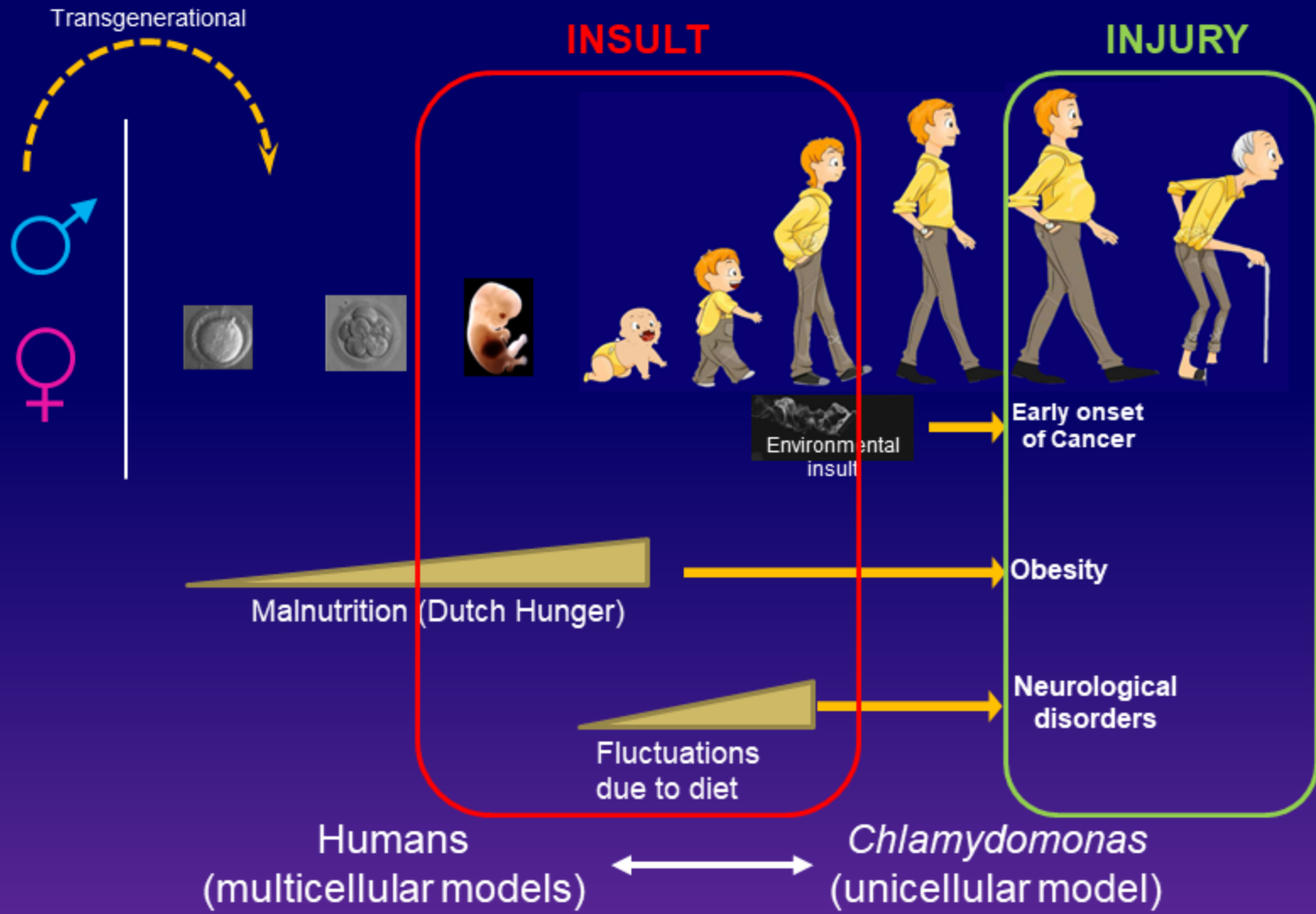


Education  
Intra and inter  
Institutional



Conferences and  
Science awareness

# HYPOTHESIS - A TRANSMISSIBLE CELLULAR MEMORY



**For Researchers:**

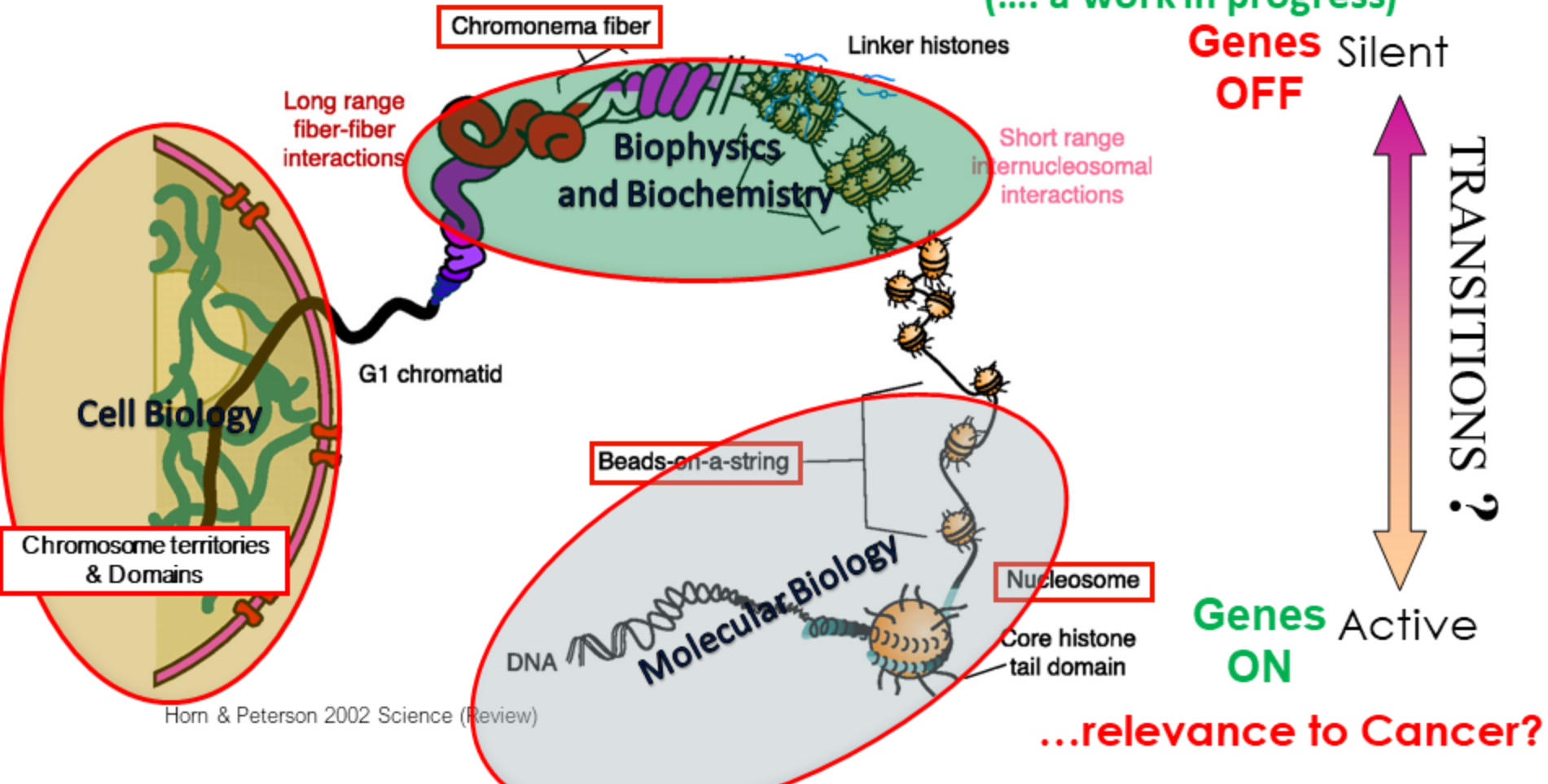
**Take-home message: Identify a broader problem of interest!**



# How effectively have we been studying this problem ?

## Relating *in vivo* Chromatin structure to Gene expression

(... a work in progress)



Horn & Peterson 2002 Science (Review)

**Take-home message: Multi-pronged approach  
Evolve your tools with the problem! Do not stagnate!**

Playing  
detective  
with  
yourself

Not Just Work

Integrated  
Scientific  
and  
Holistic  
Approach

Rational Thinking

Challenging  
Involves  
**Teaching  
Education  
Research**

Passion+Mission

## Why do I love what I do

### Upcoming Challenges:

(challenges my creativity)

- The changing face of 'Information' gathering and consumption.
- How Social Media affects inter-personal interactions
- Increasing shorter attention span within millennials.
- Helping to fertilize ideation to technology.



# Gathering Skills from Scientific Research



## Aided Learning Portals:

- ONLINE COURSES by Universities in USA, Germany, Italy, Europe etc. including ventures like *Coursera*.
- Short Diplomas or MPhil courses for specialisations.
- Youtube (informal), TEDx, Online Coaching Classrooms.
- Extramural and Correspondence courses run by multiple Universities.
- Workshops arranged by multiple Science Academies, Societies, and Institutions.

# Job Avenues

**BSc / Btech**

Academic job market slower  
Professional job market relatively stronger



**MSc / MTech**



**PhD**

Paper writing and editing  
Science Policy and Management  
Science Awareness  
(NGO/Environment sector)  
Project Management/Implementation  
Education Research

Science Journalism  
Scientific writing and editing  
Educators for STEM  
Curriculum design/research

Independent Venture Capitalism  
Consultants in Bio-tech/Pharma  
Scientific Art/Animation  
Scientific Documentaries and Biographies  
Life Coach - Science in daily lives

Independent/collaborative entrepreneurship  
(BIG-DBT grants / Start-ups govt/pvt aided)  
Teaching – Higher education  
Online Laboratory/Course designs  
Grant Writing Services.  
Big Data Science

# Lessons learnt (Dos and Don'ts)

## ➤ **TAKE A BREAK:**

Take an academic break if necessary to figure out what's next.  
(but do something **CONSTRUCTIVE** to add to your CV).

## ➤ **Maintain DIVERSITY in profile:**

Try out multiple avenues, Do not pursue a career because someone else told you so.

## ➤ **PASSION:**

Feel passionate about whatever you do, lest work starts to feel like a "job"!

## ➤ **AWARENESS of self-worth:**

Choose your field/venn wisely, it will decide what remedial measures to take to feel 'complete'.

## ➤ **FINANCIAL SECURITY:**

Make a financial plan for time line of work versus investments, to help you decide what path might be the one suitable forward.

**Learn from your mistakes – Evolve with the system**