

Students@Systems Panel: Getting a Job in Academia

A Panel on

Getting a job in Academia

2023 Edition

Prof. John
UT Austin

Prof. Kogias
ICL

Prof. Pei
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Prof. Ustiugov
NTU

Oct 18 | 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM Pacific

Register for free:
t.ly/Y4KVm

Panel Details

Note to our audiences:

For this year's panel, we target the audiences who have decided to go on the job market.

If you are not sure about academia vs. industry, you may also watch our last episode of the academic job hunting panel (hosted in 2022 summer) on YouTube.

- Time: Oct 18, 2023, 11:30 AM - 12:30 PM (PDT)
- Event webpage: t.ly/Y4KVm
- To join:
 - Please register for Eventbrite (listed on our event webpage)
 - It's free of charge, we just use Eventbrite to send Zoom links to all our audiences automatically
 - You may also follow our YouTube channel where we will host the live stream
- Discussion topics:
 - We already prepared a list of discussion topics
 - If you have any additional questions for our panelists to discuss, please post your questions on our event webpage

- We will try to answer these questions at the end of the event.
 - Until we reach the time limit
 - Top-voted questions will be answered first

Curated Discussion Topics

Priority of discussion topics:

Since now (Oct 2023) is the application season, we will mainly focus on the “Application” topics listed below.

We will leave time for open questions in “Final Thoughts” and audience questions on Sli.do.

And finally (time permitting), touch on “Interview” and “Offer” topics.

1) Application

a) Research statement

- i) How did you (panelists) write the statement
- ii) How did you come up with your story
- iii) Your flow of the story
 - (1) How do you write your overview (first few paragraphs)?
 - (2) What is the structure/flow of your statement?
- iv) What did you do to make it a good statement?
 - (1) Make it clear.
 - (2) Attract audiences' attention
 - (3) Resources that helped your writing (online writing guides, advice from others, etc.)
 - (4) How to balance the lengths and details of the past and future research?

b) How does a university evaluate statement

- i) What's the most important part from the hiring committee's perspective?
- ii) Is past and future research equally important?
- iii) Any general advice from a hiring committee member's perspective?

c) Reference letter

- i) Who should be a letter writer
- ii) How to get high-quality letters
- iii) What does the hiring committee look for in an applicant's letters?

d) Diversity and teaching statements

- i) How to properly present thoughts in these statements
- ii) How to write a good teaching statement if the applicant only has normal TA experience without extra mentoring experience?
- iii) What does the hiring committee look for in a teaching statement?
- iv) What does the hiring committee look for in a diversity statement?

e) How do you pick a school when applying?

- i) How to interpret a job call?
- 2) Interview
 - a) What is a typical interview process?
 - i) Differences between North America vs. Europe vs. Asia
 - b) How to prepare for the phone interview (if any)
 - c) How to give a good job talk
- 3) Offer negotiation
 - a) What does an offer contain: startup fund, pay, benefits, and others?
 - b) How to negotiate an offer, even without counter offers from other universities
 - c) How to evaluate the balance between the offer and future spending (living expenses, hiring students, funding overhead)
- 4) Final thoughts
 - a) What is the best advice you would give to faculty candidates? Especially something you wish you knew at the time you are applying.
 - b) What made you decide to be a professor?
 - c) What made you decide to take the offer from your current academic institution?