

Career Ownership & Personal Opportunity in Today's Industry: Redefining Success

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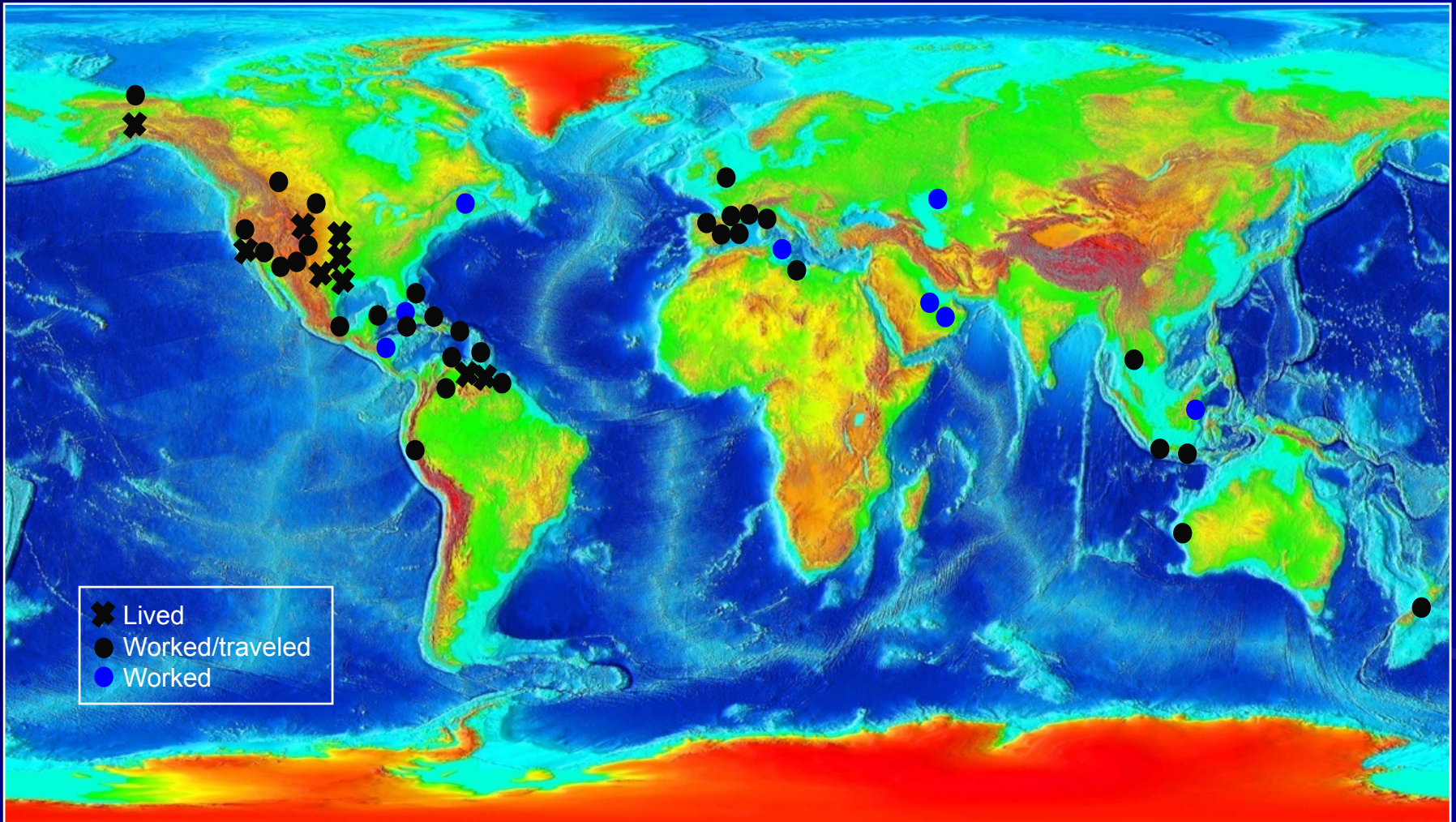
Shell Exploration & Production
Company

June 10, 2009

“Luck is what happens
when preparation
meets opportunity.”

- *Seneca, Rome, 1st Century BC*

Why I Love my Career



Our Industry is Unique

⊕ Evolution of Women in the Industry

⊕ Experienced Hires

⊕ Booms and Busts

“The simple fact of making the group diverse makes it better at problem solving.”

— *James Surowiecki,*
The Wisdom of
Crowds

Context of Career Decisions

Stages:

⊕ Career

⊕ Personal life

- Children
- Parents
- Offramps / Onramps
(Hewlett, 2007)

“Balance is a mindset, as individual and unique as our genetic code. Where you find joy, you find balance.”

— *Keith Ferrazzi*
Never Eat Alone

Proactive Decisions

⊕ Change assignments? Change companies?

⊕ Children / Parents

- Short-term vs. long-term?
- On-ramp back in?
- Flex

“I have often been asked, especially by women, of how I could reconcile family life with a scientific career. Well, it has not been easy.”

— *Madame Marie Curie*

Reactive Decisions

⊕ Boom-Bust

- Severed or offered a package
 - Persevere?
 - Leave the Industry?
 - Turn lemons into lemonade?

“The key to change is to let go of fear.”

—*Roseann Cash*

Find your passion

Why Geology?

“Rocks are records of events that took place at the time they formed. They are books. They have a different vocabulary, a different alphabet, but you learn how to read them.”

— *John McPhee*



'Opportunities Happened on the way to Grad School...'



Follow your passion!



“You can do anything you put your mind to...as long as you are willing to work hard enough at it.”

— *Lynton S. Land*

Choices

Changes

Challenges

Comfort Zones

Choices & Epiphanies



“Growth involves change and change involves risk, stepping from the known to the unknown.”

—Anon.



Change Happens!

Lemons into Lemonade...



“It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change.”

—Charles Darwin

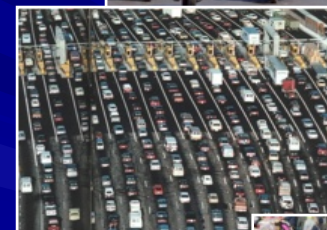
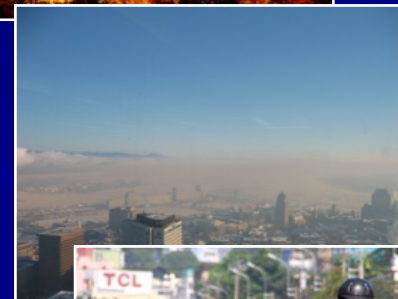
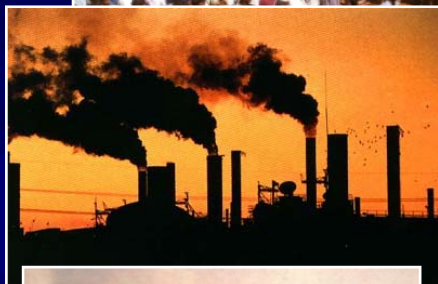
Comfort Zones



“One thing I didn’t realize, when I talked about getting out of your comfort zone, is that sometimes you’re uncomfortable.”

— *Katie Couric*

CO₂



What are you looking for?

- ⊕ Things to consider...
 - Breadth vs. depth?
 - Exploration / Development / Reservoir Characterization / Research?
 - Major / Independent / Consultant / Government?
 - Teaching: University? High School? Industry?
 - Enormous range of opportunity!

Take Ownership of Your Career

1. Do what you love and love what you do
2. Make strong professional relationships
 - Find a mentor or mentors
 - Network, network, network – sincerely
 - Give back to AAPG and local; to society
 - “What goes around comes around.”

Take Ownership of Your Career

(cont'd)

3. Develop a strong support system

- Family, friends, colleagues, church, etc.
- Don't isolate your career decisions from your personal life

4. Balance your work and your life

- Take your vacation!
- No regrets

Take Ownership of Your Career

(cont'd)

5. Be smart about your moves

- Change happens!
- Have an awareness of industry trends; economic trends
- Be flexible – this industry demands it!
- Be ready for opportunities
- Be willing to stretch yourself.

Take Ownership of Your Career

(cont'd)

6. Believe in yourself

- Don't be afraid to discuss what you do know
- Never be afraid to say that you don't know
 - and ask questions to find out
- Have the confidence that you know what is right for yourself.

“Trust yourself. You know more than you think you do.”

— *Benjamin Spock*

It's Not Always Effortless...

“...I've read that I flew up the hills and mountains of France. But you don't fly up a hill. You struggle slowly and painfully up a hill, and maybe, if you work very hard, you get to the top....”

— *Lance Armstrong*



