

Career Advancement: What Can You Do?

Editor's Note: What's the best thing you've done to enhance your career? Here some suggestions are offered up by AAMI members. Send your thoughts to sgillespie@aami.org.

Do What You Love

I found a career I love for which I have a natural aptitude. I think people can do this proactively by examining themselves closely and doing the necessary research on careers.



Ask yourself: Are you passionate enough that you can put up with all of the headaches and do all of the work required to get ahead? Do you have the ability to solve problems? Can you make a decision and stick with it? Can you communicate effectively verbally and in writing? Do you have the ability to inspire people?

If you love basketball and want to make playing it your career, but are 5'2", slow, and have bad hand-eye coordination, you are probably not going to succeed regardless of how well you plan your career or how hard you try. If you are 6'10", very athletic, and naturally gifted at playing basketball, you still won't get ahead if you don't have a passion for the game.

Ken Maddock
Baylor Health Care System
Dallas, TX

Make a Name for Yourself

Get yourself out there by any means necessary. Like the old saying goes "Any publicity is good publicity." I would like to think that starting my blog (thebiomed.com) has helped me advance my career. If anything, it's gotten my name out there, and that counts for a lot. I also try to stay active on the Biomedtalk listserv, I started a LinkedIn Group (The Biomed Group), and I joined and am active in many other related LinkedIn groups. I have had *BI&T* feature a Listserv question of mine, and have been featured in a *AAMI News* article.




Chaim Herskovic
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Don't Do the Minimum

I had no experience when I entered the biomed field; I was trained in radar systems by the U.S. Army. I was hired with the agreement that I would pursue an associate's degree in electronics. As I was about to wrap up my degree, I decided take my education to the next level and went for my bachelor's degree in healthcare management. Then, because I hoped to move to a management position, I completed a BSBA and later an executive MBA.

Follow through with education. More than likely you will have to relocate if you want to move up into the upper levels of management. If you are willing to relocate then you will be able to open so many more doors for your career. One of my favorite sayings is "where there is a will, there is a way," and I would encourage anyone to further their education as a means of career development.

Jeff Thomas
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