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Transition from academia to industry, who can help?

By [Alice Le Fric](#)

Deciding to leave academic research for something new can be both exciting and terrifying. When academic labs are all you know, it's time to apply your researching skills to your career! Luckily, you are not alone. We have compiled some helpful resources and networks, as well as one important tip for making the transition.

Though some resources are geared towards PhDs, all our readers, both students and professionals will find useful information! The resources highlighted here are based in France & Europe.

From Réseau Biotechno's partners :



Association Bernard Gregory

A French association for the professional development of PhDs, ABG offers many resources such as webinars, events and training courses. Use the DocPro platform to understand and map out your transferable skills!

More information [here](#)

PhDOOC

If you read our previous editions, you won't have missed PhDOOC! This free Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) is your guide to PhD career development, and is available in English and in French.

More information [here](#)



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More helpful resources

- As she explores the path from academia to industry, **Marion Coumel** is encouraging conversations and shared experience around career transitions from academia on LinkedIn! Check out her resource library at <https://marioncoumel.wixsite.com/research/about-1>

Within this library, discover or rediscover:



Apec: [website in French] association de service public pour l'emploi des cadres, l'Apec propose un accompagnement en évolution professionnel personnalisé ainsi qu'un grand nombre de formations et d'événements gratuits pour les candidats en recherche d'emploi. Plus d'informations [ici](#)



Résaliance: boost your career, listen to podcasts, interviews, and discover the free mentorship program which connects professionals with graduates in need of career advice! More information [here](#)

- **Leem (Les entreprises du médicament)**



A professional organization for pharmaceutical companies in France, the Leem provides resources such as articles, analyses, and especially "l'observatoire des métiers". In this last section, you will find job descriptions and a wealth of information regarding possible careers. Check it out [here](#)

- **Euraxess**



Euraxess has an impressive panel of career tools to clarify your goals and career options on the international scale. Give them a try [here](#)

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Where can I find out about biotech companies?

Progressively identify private actors in your field by paying attention to **partners and sponsors of scientific conferences** in your area of study, and meeting their delegates where possible. See if your laboratory and/or university has an **Alumni website** where you can find former students' and where they now work. Your **Region** may have webpages dedicated to research and innovation, with valuable information about innovation and companies near you. **Professional networks and associations** federate laboratories, companies and training institutions within a specific location and sector of activity. Use their **member directories** to identify innovative companies in your field!

Note: *competitiveness clusters in biotechnology and healthtech include: **Atlanpôle Biothérapies, BioValley France, Clubster NSL** which is part of **Eurasanté, Cosmetic Valley, Eurobiomed, Lyon Biopôle, Innov'Alliance and Medicen**. There are also clusters dedicated to related fields such as agrosciences, climate change, water, chemistry and more : full list on the **official website** [here](#).*

You can also check out the member directories of professional networks such as [France Biotech](#)

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One tip to rule them all: the informational interview

There is no substitute for listening first-hand to someone's lived experience! Don't be shy, you will find that many professionals are happy to be politely approached on LinkedIn or through associations, and will dedicate some time to advise you.

If you haven't tried informational interviews yet, here are some pointers:

- ★ Research professionals on LinkedIn in positions or companies you are curious about, and **select the profiles you find most interesting**. Aim for professionals with a seniority level similar to or a little higher than your own. You might start with former colleagues and classmates, or second degree relations in your network. However, **dare to write to total strangers too!** You have nothing to lose, many people remember their job searching times and are happy to help. Some even encourage you to reach out in their bio!
- ★ Briefly introduce yourself and explain what drew you to the person's profile. Be clear about your goal: do you want to know more about their job, or are you in the process of applying to their company? Ask if they would be comfortable answering a few questions, either in writing, via a phone call or video chat.
- ★ They agreed? Great, now is your chance to asking anything you are genuinely curious about! To help structure your interview, think about your interviewees' past (experience, transition into the job), present (day-to-day work life), and future (opportunities, related positions).

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- ★ Some examples of informative questions:
 - Could you tell me how you found and applied to your current position?
 - What are your responsibilities?
 - How is your team structured?
 - What does a typical week look like? What about a typical month?
 - What are your favorite and least favorite parts of the job?
 - Is there anything you miss about academia?
 - What are the opportunities for career advancement?
 - Would you be happy to share the expected salary range for the position?
 - Do you have any last pieces of advice?
 - Is there anyone else I should speak with, if so would you perhaps introduce me?
- ...
- ★ When you do accept a position, let your mentors know: they will be happy to hear your progress and celebrate your success!

Coming soon ... the "innovation map" of careers!

Next month, don't miss out the "**innovation map**" created by **Bio'M**, one of the Réseau Biotechno's member associations and the organizer of the Forum BiotechnoSUD. This map was made in close collaboration with the godfather of Forum BiotechnoSUD 2023: Pierre d'Epenoux ! **It represents the many positions existing in innovation, classified in 3 sectors : Academics, Industry and Health Tech.**

Throwback on the MedFIT and BioFIT events

By [Katia Villion](#)

Last October and December the Réseau Biotechno was invited to MedFIT and BioFIT held respectively in Strasbourg and Marseille.

Some of our members had the opportunity to go. They share their experience and what it brought to the Réseau Biotechno.

For Madina Khamitova, it was a pleasure and excitement to be invited by Eurasanté to the 7th edition of MedFIT 2023. MedFIT is a European partnering event for innovation partnerships and investment rounds in the MedTech, Diagnostic, and Digital Health sectors.

As a unique European partnering event, MedFIT provides the ideal environment for academic and industrial actors to:

- Build partnerships
- Source innovative and competitive early-stage R&D projects
- Foster the emergence of collaborative projects
- Increase licensing opportunities
- Obtain funding and facilitate market access

This year counted 600 Delegates, 30 countries represented, 75 high-level speakers, 3.000+ meeting opportunities, 90 exhibitors, 22 innovative projects presented, ...

As an association, Réseau Biotechno finds MedFIT a great opportunity to connect, learn and gain inspiration. We hope to connect with more partners during the next MedFIT once more.

Across two days, MedFIT provided partnering activity, conference sessions, pitch competitions and exhibitions, where we could discover the newest advancements, disruptive technologies and groundbreaking projects that are shaping the future.

Réseau Biotechno express enormous gratitude to all organizers, committee, sponsors, exhibitors, speakers, and partners for the opportunity for Réseau Biotechno to connect with international key innovators in the Medtech, Diagnostic and Digital Health sectors.

For the BioFIT event, the members also represented the association Bio'M.

Throwback on the MedFIT and BioFIT events

By [Katia Villion](#)

BioFIT is a major European event dedicated to technology transfer, academic-industry collaborations, early-stage innovation deals, and pre-seed, seed, and venture capital investments in the Life Sciences field. Organized jointly by Eursanté, Clubster NSL, BioValley France, and Eurobiomed, this business convention aims to bring together key players from academic, industrial, and startup environments, promoting partnerships and facilitating investments.

The annual edition of BioFIT, now in its 12th year, took place at the Parc Chanot in Marseille on December 12 and 13, with an online day on Friday the 15th. Over these two days, the Parc Chanot welcomed more than 1 000 international stakeholders in human and animal health, representing over 35 countries, with the participation of 60 expert speakers. A program rich in opportunities was offered, including pitch sessions for startups and international project holders, roundtable discussions, booths, a plenary session, and more. The four distinct tracks covered best practices in R&D collaboration, technology development and transfer, access to early-stage investment from seed to Series A, and animal health.

Bio'M had the opportunity to take part in this event thanks to an invitation from Eursanté and also by the General Manager of Eurobiomed, Emilie Royère. For our four representatives, Maximilien Fil (President), Sophie Mazzoli (Secretary General), Ona Kandolo (Treasurer), and Cathy Costa Da Silva (Communications Manager), this opportunity was a real privilege. They were able to interact with numerous innovation stakeholders such as Alhena Consult, French biotechs like OZ Bioscience, Cherry Biotech, Vect-Horus, and even international players like Bioindustry Park, Novalix, pharmaceutical companies like Unither Pharmaceuticals, and startups like DataMarkin. These interactions not only facilitated the creation of new collaborations but also broadened our horizons for a more diverse future forum, and significantly raised Bio'M's profile among biotech-related companies, while increasing our awareness of what our potential partners expect from our forum.

The Newsletter team warmly thank [Madina Khamitova](#) (Réseau Biotechno Community manager) and [Cathy Costa Da Silva](#) (Bio'M Communications Manager / Forum BiotechnoSUD organisation team) for the materials they provided to write the content of this article.

The **REAL** section (for **Read** – Analyze – Listen) highlights our recommendations of the month.



What you can **READ** this month ?

- ***Industry scores higher than academia for job satisfaction***

A survey was done to understand if people working in industries have a better job satisfaction in terms of work-life balance and payscale, compared to academia. Read [this](#) article to find out more.



What you can **ANALYZE** this month ?

- ***How Paris is becoming a happy home for health-technology start-up companies***

A long-term investment plan is helping the French capital to attract talent. Read about how three companies discuss the pros and cons of launching and running medical-technology businesses in the French capital [here](#).



What you can **LISTEN** to this month ?

- ***Biotech Career Coach***

Networking is crucial when finding a job or for a career advancement. Listen to a few tips and tricks on how this can be done [here](#)!


Feb

 22nd
Biozero by Eurobiomed
When: From 5.00 pm to 7.00 pm
Where: Marseille, CCI AMP, Palais de la Bourse 13001

Come and meet the actors of innovation in health of the Aix-Marseille ecosystem! Eurobiomed will highlight entrepreneur of the region. They will present their most latest progresses.

Event held in french.

Inscription is mandatory!

Inscription and more information [here](#)


Feb

 15th
UX Design sonore - Portfolio
When: Thu Feb 15 2024 at 06:45 pm to 08:30 pm
Where: GOBELINS Paris, 73 Boulevard Saint-Marcel, Paris

Si l'UX design est principalement connu pour le design d'interface, il prend aussi d'autres formes, il est aussi sonore. L'UX design vous connaissez !(?), Mais l'UX design sonore ? For more info [here](#)


Feb

 29th-1st
Paris-Saclay Summit 2024
When: 29/02/2024 to 1/03/2024
Where: EDF Lab Paris-Saclay, Palaiseau

Le CNRS vous propose une première édition d'un évènement unique qui a pour ambition de réunir l'ensemble des parties prenantes de la société - citoyens, décideurs politiques, scientifiques, chefs d'entreprise, étudiants - pour partager leur vision des grands enjeux du siècle! Informations [ici](#) et programme [ici](#)




Feb
21st
Making Modern Deployments Simple
Wed, 21 Feb 2024 13:00 - 14:00 CET
Where: Online

Studies show that over 90% of large organizations use multicloud architectures. Octopus Deploy is a deployment tool that simplifies complex deployments. Anaeko, a multicloud DevOps and DataOps company, introduces Octopus Deploy in a brief webinar and demonstrates how it works.

Inscription and more information [here](#)


Mar
26th
RISE UP - Atelier LinkedIn
When: 02/26/2024, 6:30:00 PM - 02/26/2024, 9:00:01 PM
**Where: CAP DIRIGEANT 91 Rue Du Faubourg Saint-Honoré
75008 PARIS France**

LinkedIn est devenu l'incontournable de toute carrière professionnelle. Pour aller vers un prochain poste, il est important d'être repéré(e) par un chasseur, de faire la différence, de donner envie de nous connaître, de travailler son « personal branding ». Béatrice Wodetzki et Sabine Zilberas vous donneront les bonnes recettes pour utiliser au mieux cet outil, ainsi que les pièges à éviter.

Plus d'informations [ici](#)




Mar
1st-2nd
Les futurs champions de la Chimie
When: 1-2 March 2024
Where: Paris Montreuil Expo

Découvrez les 20 ans de cet évènement autour de la formation et l'insertion dans les métiers de la chimie! Rencontres, animations, conférences, et ateliers CV et coaching sont au rendez-vous! Entrée libre, plus d'informations [ici](#)


Mar
22nd-24th
3rd edition of the Hackathon "Digital4Genomics"
When: from Friday 22th, 5.00 pm to Sunday 24th, 6.00 pm
Where: Paris

The Hackathon is all about leveraging AI to tackle medical and environmental challenges. It's a fantastic opportunity for researchers, students, and entrepreneurs to collaborate, innovate, and turn their ideas into reality. Generous prizes will be offered, with amounts reaching up to €10,000!
Event held in french.

Submit your abstract before the **26th of February** [here](#) !


July
10-11th
Partner event : Curious 2024 Future Insight Conference
When: 10th to 11th of July 2024
Where: Mainz, Germany

Explore the future of science and technology, and meet accomplished scientists and innovators! With over 2500 attendees and 12 Nobel Laureates, don't miss this exceptional gathering. Thanks to our partnership, Réseau Biotechno members benefit from a discounted ticket. **Abstract submission until 31st March 2024!** More information [here](#)

