



# Neuroscience careers in government and industry

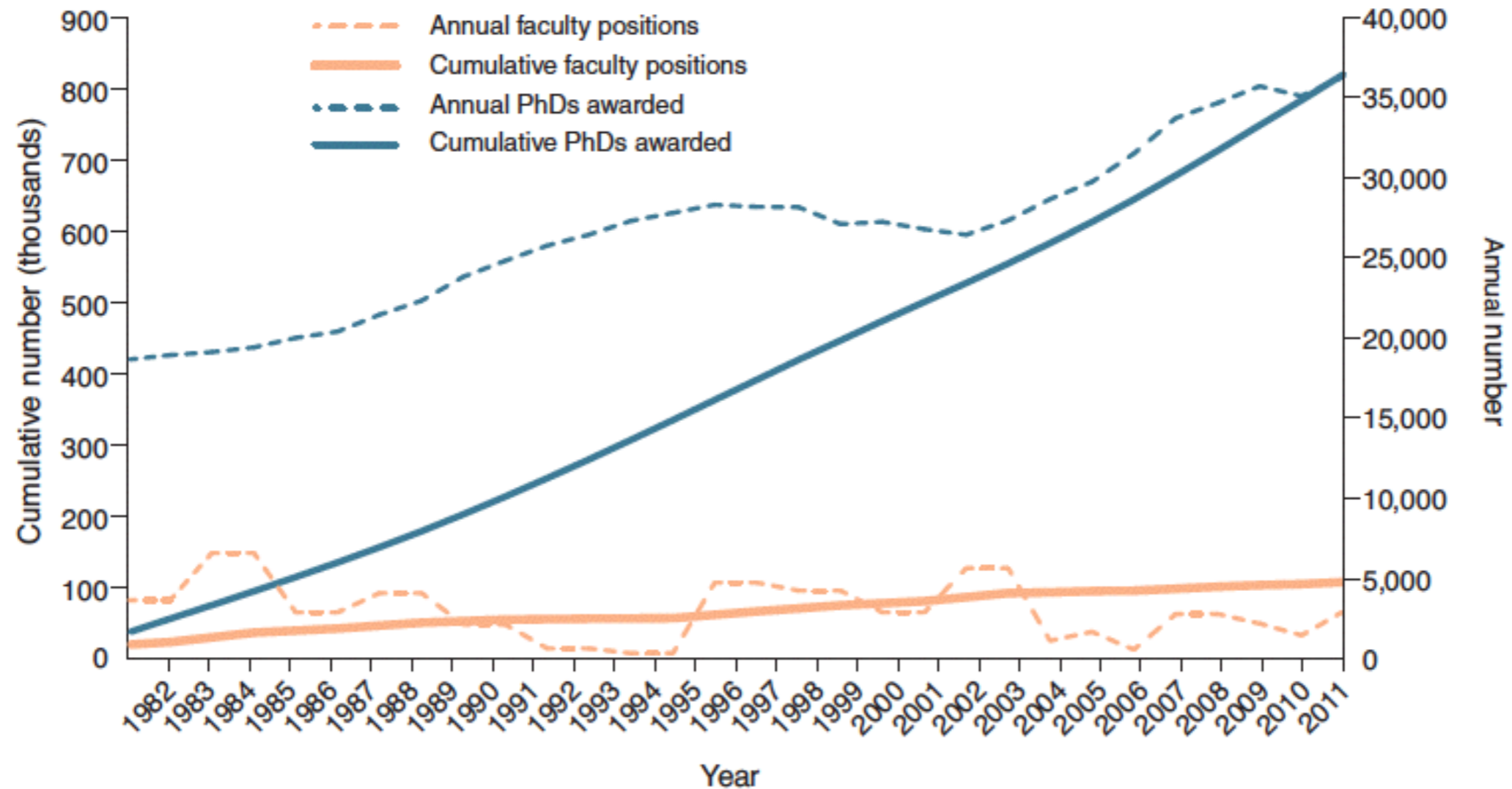
## CAN-ACN satellite meeting

May 25th, 2014

Montreal Hilton Bonaventure, Montreal

Organizer: Brian Corneil, UWO

# Too much supply, too little demand?



**Figure 1** New faculty positions versus new PhDs. Since 1982, almost 800,000 PhDs were awarded in science and engineering (S&E) fields, whereas only about 100,000 academic faculty positions were created in those fields within the same time frame. The number of S&E PhDs awarded annually has also increased over this time frame, from ~19,000 in 1982 to ~36,000 in 2011. The number of faculty positions created each year, however, has not changed, with roughly 3,000 new positions created annually<sup>2,10</sup>.

*Taken from Schillebeeckx et al. 2013, Nat. Biotech.*

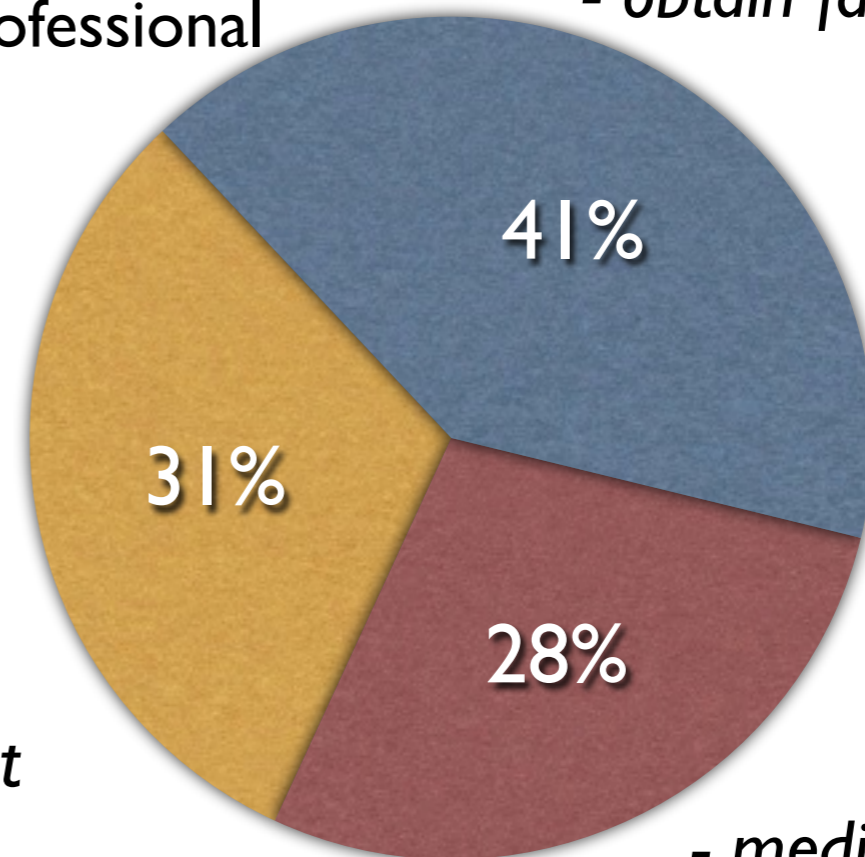
# Where do neuroscience trainees\* end up?

**\*Data compiled from Neuroscience Grad Program at Western, and affiliated labs. n = 196**

- Research
- Health-related professional
- Other

- continue in grad school,
- pursue post-doc,
- obtain faculty position

- Pharmaceutical or devices industry
- Provincial or federal governments
- Law
- Regulatory affairs, quality control and assurance
- MBA
- Consultant or business analyst
- Teaching (high school, college, university)
- Computer programmer or software development
- Hospital administration
- Medical writing
- Public health
- Charities
- Seminary

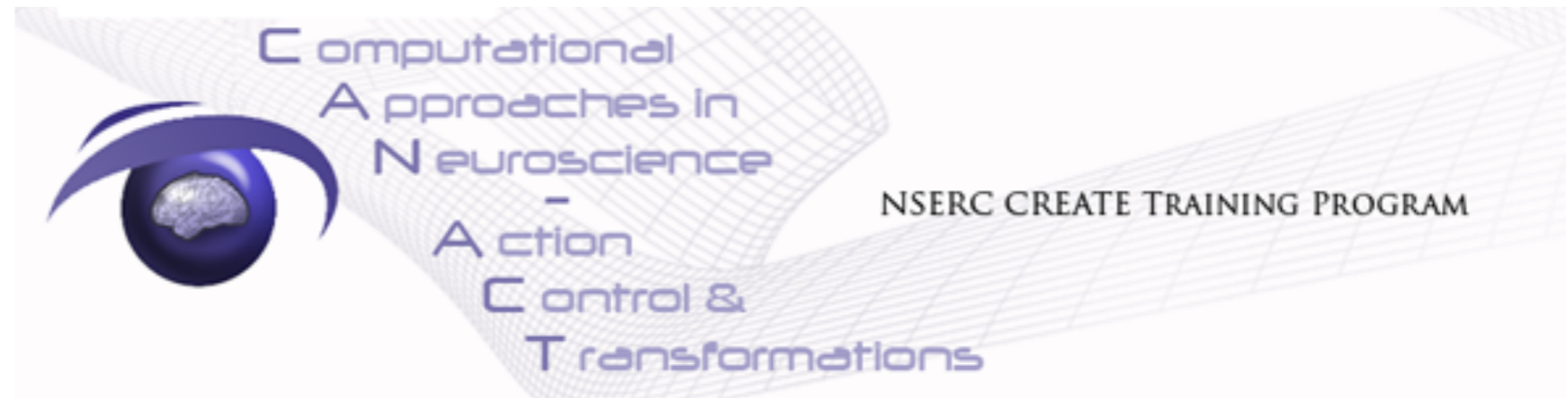


- medical school
- rehab: PT or OT
- optometry
- vet school
- dentistry

# Schedule

- 9:30-9:45 Introduction and welcome, Brian Corneil, UWVO
- 9:45-10:15 Mark Patterson, eLife Sciences Publications
- 10:15-10:45 Andrew Klein, Plexon Inc
- 10:45-11:00 Coffee break
- 11:00-11:30 Ian Brown, BKIN Technologies
- 11:30-12:00 Alison Fenney, Ontario Brain Institute
- 12:00-1:30 Lunch
- 1:30-2:00 Carol Yin, Yinsight Inc.
- 2:00-2:30 Nathalie Gendron, CIHR INMHA
- 2:30-3:00 Coffee break
- 3:00-3:30 Daniel Larocque, GSK Vaccines
- 3:30-4:00 Simon Bousquet, Mitacs

# Acknowledgements and Feedback



Feedback to: [bcorneil@uwo.ca](mailto:bcorneil@uwo.ca)

Thank you:

Jude Ross, De Armond Management Ltd.

Dr. Julie Poupart, CAN Communications Director

*The Speakers*

# Common themes from today (hopefully optimistic!)

- Importance of passion: find it and pursue it
- Importance of “networking”
- Serendipity and persistence
- Value of the skills you’re learning during training
- Communication and people skills
- Take advantage of opportunities outside of lab!

## Useful links/resources mentioned by our speakers

The following resources were mentioned by speakers during the day...

Mark Patterson: [myscicareer.com](http://myscicareer.com) for a website of life outside of academia

Mark Patterson mentioned: “Scenes from the Postdocalypse”. See:

<http://www.motherjones.com/environment/2014/03/inquiring-minds-ethan-perlstein-postdocalypse>

Mark Patterson mentioned an article by HR Bourne in eLife 2013:

[A fair deal for PhD students and postdocs.](#)

**Bourne HR.**

Elife. 2013 Oct 1;2:e01139. doi: 10.7554/eLife.01139.

PMID: 24137543 [PubMed] **Free PMC Article**

Ian Brown mentioned a book entitled “For Better or For Work: A survival guide for entrepreneurs and their families”, by Meg Hirshberg. It’s available on [amazon.com](http://amazon.com)

Nathalie Gendron mentioned that CIHR has a “Science to Business” program. See the following webpage for more detail (scroll down about half-way)

<http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/44911.html>