

Creative Job Searching

Brianna Blaser

Science Careers/AAAS

AAAS

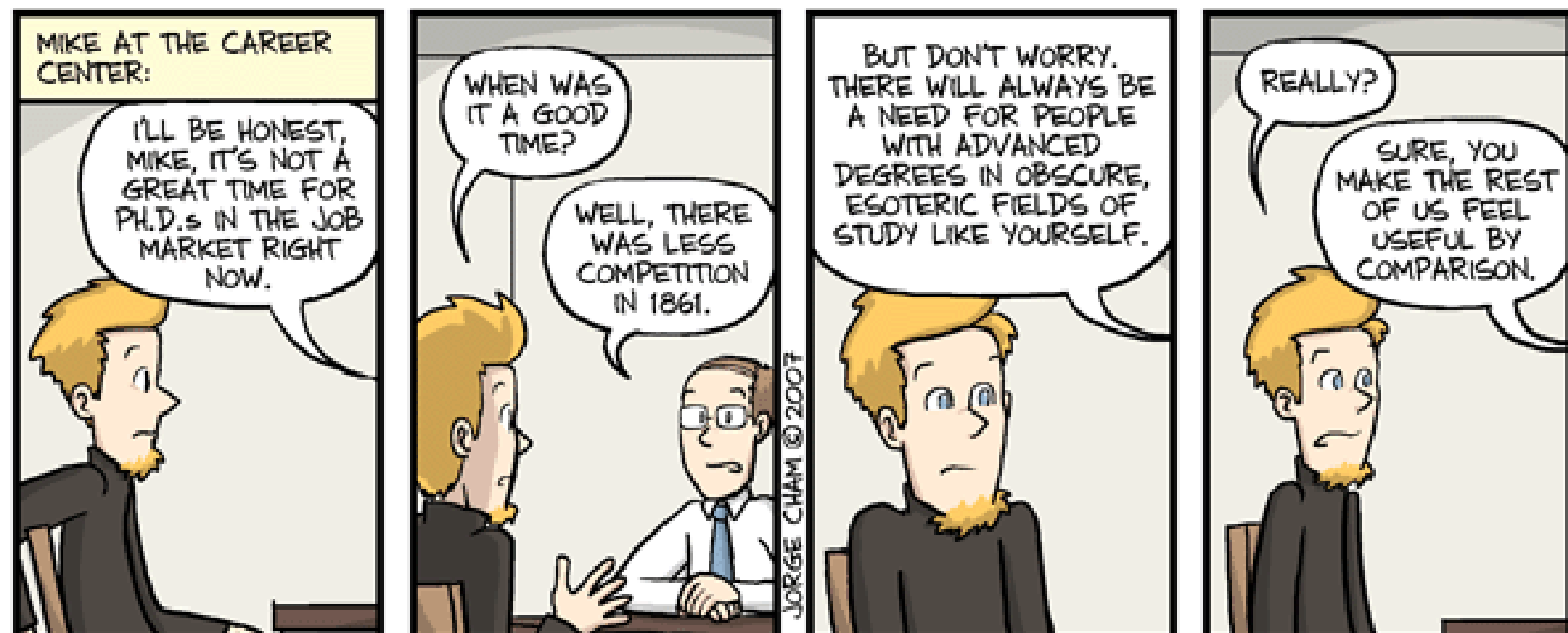
- International nonprofit organization dedicated to advancing science, engineering, and innovation throughout the world
- Membership-based organization
- Publisher of *Science*
- Source for a broad range of career development resources through *Science Careers*



Every so often you might run across an employer who is good at finding hidden talent, but don't count on it. So take full responsibility for getting found.

- Brooke Allen

Creative Job Searching



WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM

"Piled Higher and Deeper" by Jorge Cham

www.phdcomics.com

Introduction

- What do I mean by “creative job searching”?
- Others’ creative approaches
- What can you do?

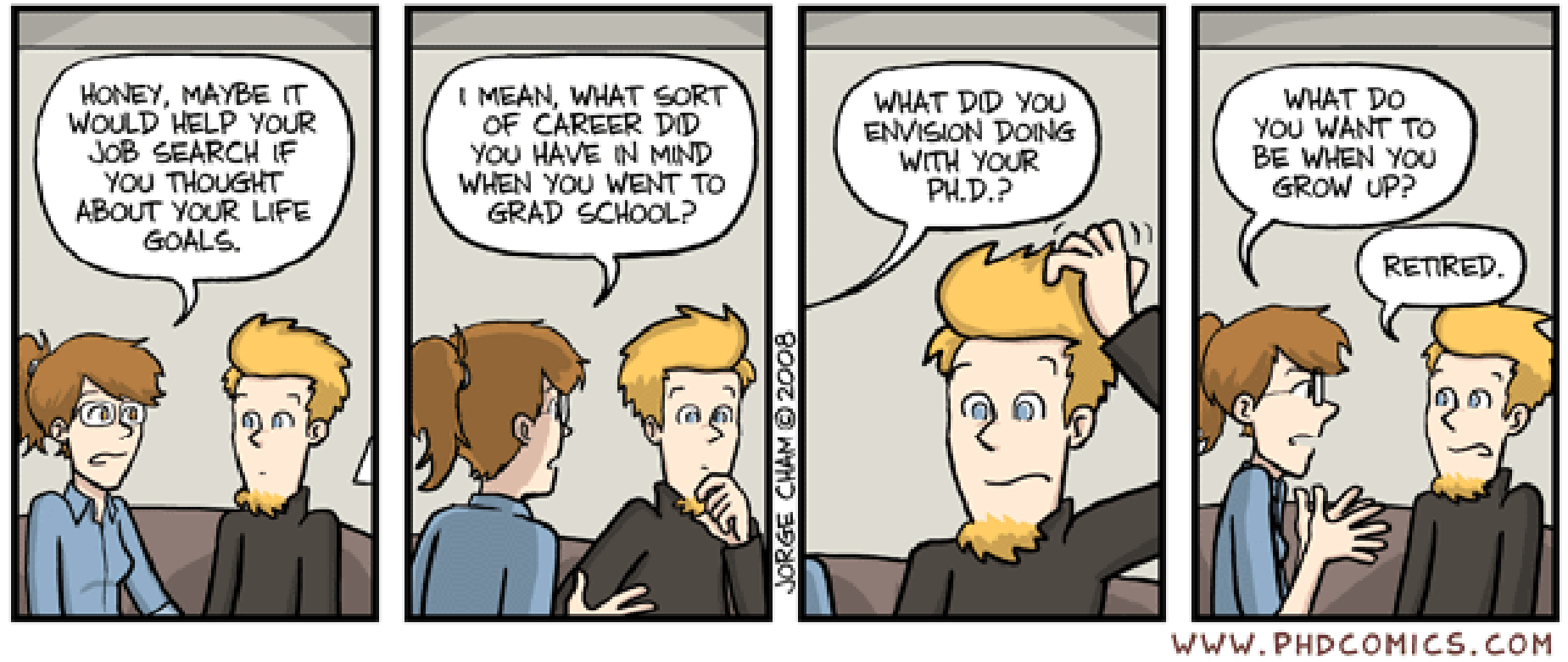
Be Proactive and Creative in Your...

- Self-exploration
- Networking
- Locating openings
- Resumes and CVs
- Interviewing
- Negotiating

Job Search Timeline

- Exploration
- Applications
- Interviews

Creative Job Searching



"Piled Higher and Deeper" by Jorge Cham

www.phdcomics.com

Preparing for Your Job Search

- Be proactive and creative by thinking about what you really want
- Be proactive and creative by figuring out what you can do with your skills

Preparing for Your Job Search

- Self-assessment
- Build skills and seek out new experiences
- Research your options
- Informational interviews

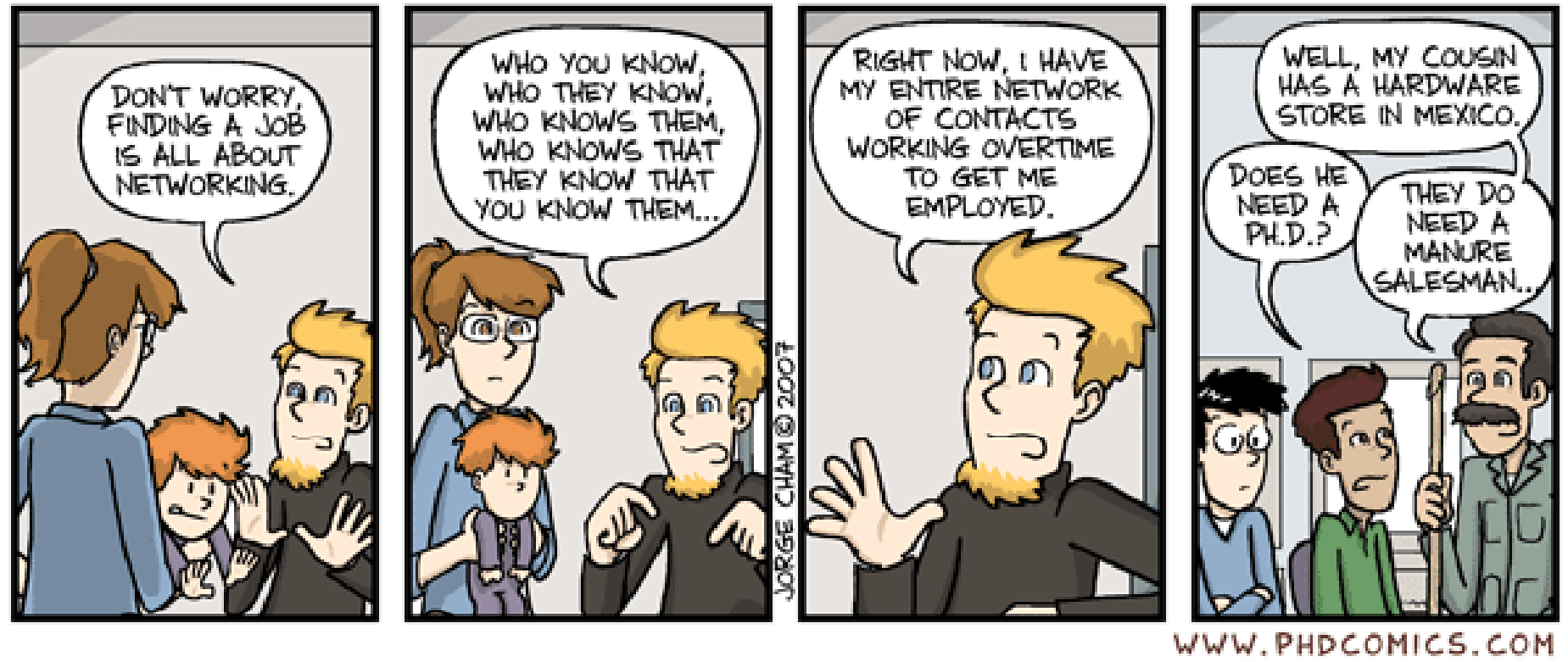
Questions to ask yourself

- What do you like to do? What energizes you?
- Do you want to do lab work/research?
- Where do you want to work?
- What do you want to wear to work?
- How often do you want to change projects?
- What sorts of hours do you want to work?
- Are you willing to travel?
- What sort of funding situation do you want to be in?
- What non-science interests or skills do you want to use?
- How important is your income level? job security?
- What sort of stress levels do you want to deal with?
- Would you like to work independently or as part of a team?

Questions to ask others

- What attracted you to this field?
- What do you like most or least about this position or field?
- Describe a typical day or week.
- What steps did you take to break into this field?
- What skills are most helpful in your job? How can I develop them?
- To what professional associations do you belong?
- What advice would you give somebody interested in your line of work?

Creative Job Searching



"Piled Higher and Deeper" by Jorge Cham

www.phdcomics.com

Networking

- Be proactive and creative by making use of your contacts

Networking Your Way into Work

- Helpful at different stages of the job search
- Networking strategies to consider
 - Informational interviews
 - Networking events
 - Social networking sites
 - Be creative...

Creative Job Searching

LinkedIn People Jobs Answers Companies Account & Settings | Help | Sign Out | Language

Explore People Search: Engineer at IBM - Internet - Senior Consultant Search People Search Advanced

Profile

Edit My Profile View My Profile Edit Public Profile Settings

Brianna Blaser you

Project Director, Outreach at Science Careers/AAAS
Washington D.C. Metro Area | Professional Training & Coaching

Current

- Project Director, Outreach at AAAS

Past

- Center for Workforce Development Research Assistant at University of Washington
- Women Studies TA at University of Washington
- Intern at Association for Women in Science [see all...](#)

Education

- University of Washington
- Carnegie Mellon University

Connections 72 connections

Websites

- My Company

Public Profile <http://www.linkedin.com/pub/brianna-blaser/6/6a5/855>

Summary

Brianna Blaser is Project Director of Outreach for AAAS & Science Careers where she promotes Science Careers resources through career and professional development workshops to undergraduate and graduate students, postdoctoral scholars, and early career scientists.

Brianna earned her PhD in Women's Studies at the University of Washington in 2008. Her dissertation, *More than Just Lab Partners: Women Scientists and Engineers Married to and Partnered with Other Scientists and Engineers*, examined how women scientists' relationships with other scientists affect both their professional and personal lives. While at the University of Washington, Brianna was a research assistant at the Center for Workforce Development where she organized professional development activities, including a newsletter, a mentoring program, and workshops for

Send a message

Add Brianna to your network

Forward this profile to a connection

Ads by LinkedIn Members

USC Become a teacher
Earn a prestigious online Master's degree from USC!
mat.usc.edu

From: Master of Arts in Teaching

Gonzaga University Online
Earn an Online Masters Degree from the #3 Ranked College in the West
www.gonzagaonline.com

From: Deltak edu, Inc. [What's this?](#)

Brianna's Activity edit

Friday, Aug 7

Brianna Blaser has an updated profile (Interests, Associations, Honors) 12 days ago

[See more >](#)

Your private info about Brianna

Email & Phone:

bblaser@aaas.org other primary

Notes:

Home Groups Profile Profile Edit My Profile View My Profile Recommendations Contacts Inbox Applications Add Connections

Brianna Blaser
Project Director, Outreach at Science Careers/AAAS
What are you working on?
Your profile is 80% complete [Edit]

Locating Openings

- Be Creative By Looking for Jobs in Multiple Ways

Finding Job Openings

- Networking
- Professional organizations & conferences
- Job boards
- Institution/Company websites
- Regional hiring trends
- Career fairs (?)

Typical Ways that Employers Like to Fill Vacancies

- From within
- Using proof
- From a friend or colleague
- Using an agency that they trust
- Using an ad they've placed
- Using an unsolicited resume

(Source: *What Color is Your Parachute?*)

Which methods to use?

- Easiest routes:
 - Applying for jobs online and through ads in journals
- Better methods:
 - Asking for leads from your network
 - Seeking out contacts within specific organizations
- Using multiple job search methods!

Cast a broad net. Tell everyone you know that you are looking for work and ask them to tell everyone they know. Describe your capabilities in general terms so that you seem appropriate for a wide range of jobs. Defining yourself—or your contact list—too narrowly runs the risk of foreclosing career paths due to your own lack of imagination.

- Brooke Allen

Creative Job Searching

How to turn your CV into a "Resume":

A useful skill in these economic times

STEP 1: MOVE THE "REAL-WORLD WORK EXPERIENCE" SECTION FROM THE BOTTOM TO THE VERY TOP.



"Piled Higher and Deeper" by Jorge Cham

www.phdcomics.com

Resumes and CVs

- What is the purpose of a CV/resume?
- What is the difference?
- Which should you use?

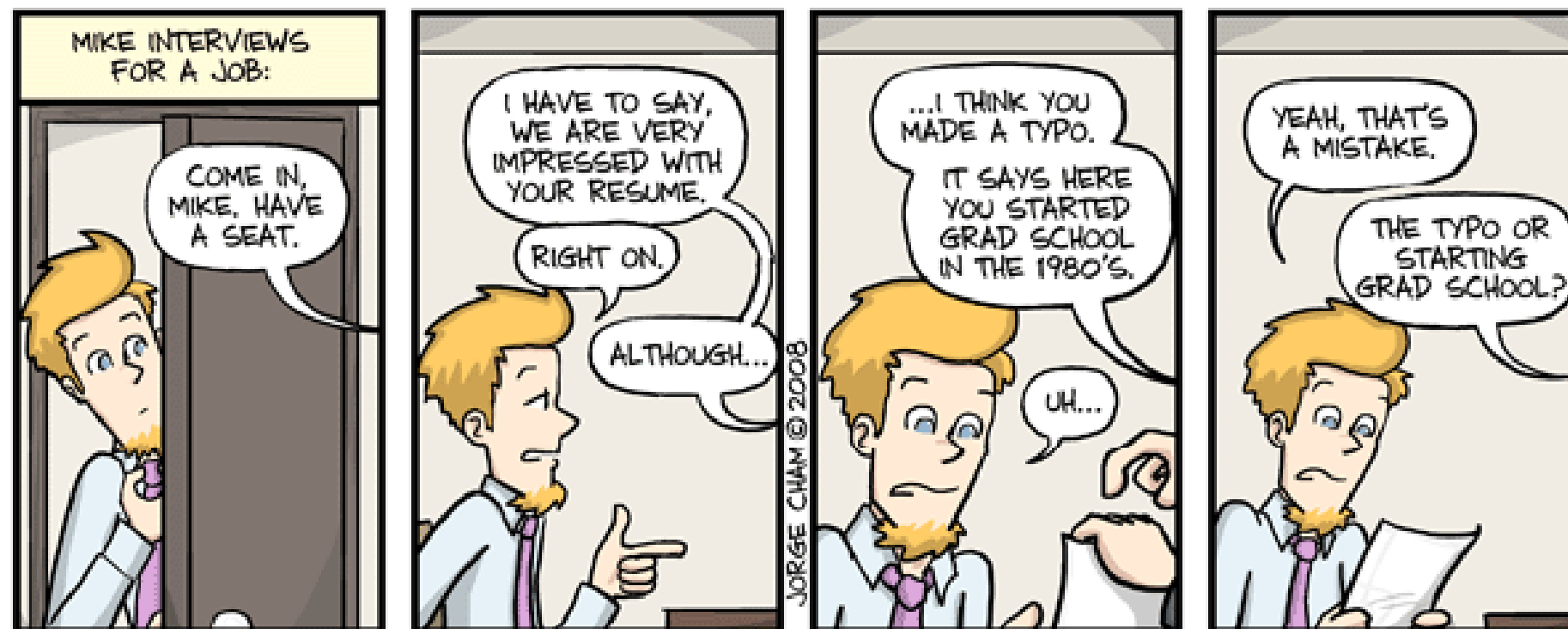
CVs vs. Resumes

	CVs	Resumes
	Longer & comprehensive	Tailored summary
	Full listing of background and research	Brief snapshot of skills and experiences
Length	Flexible (shorter in industry)	1-2 pages
Critical elements	Full list of publications, presentations, research, service	Transferable skills and experiences
Used for	Academic jobs, industry research, fellowships, grants	Non-research jobs outside of academia

Resumes

- Be creative by writing something that doesn't sound like a job description
- Marketing Tool
- Quantify accomplishments
- Keywords
- Resume real estate
- Look at templates
- Be proactive by following up on your applications

Creative Job Searching



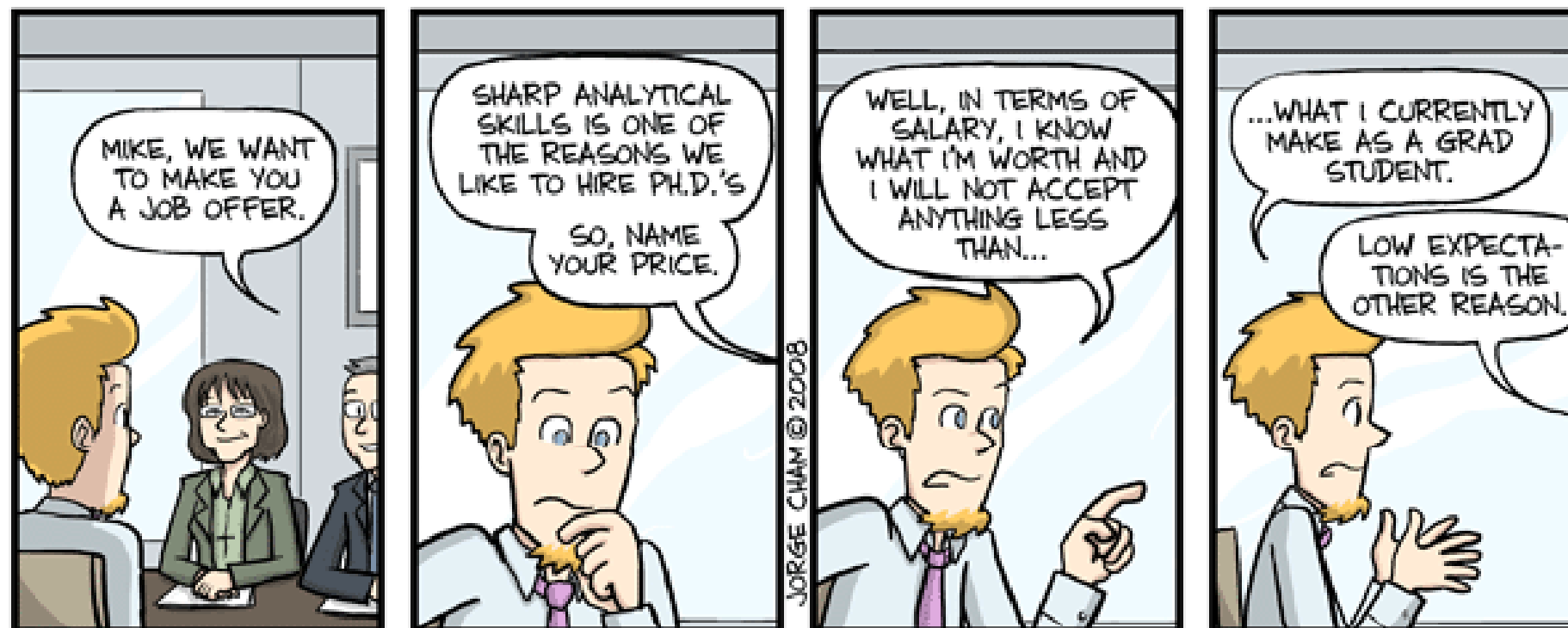
WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM

"Piled Higher and Deeper" by Jorge Cham

www.phdcomics.com

Interviews

- Be proactive and creative by showing up informed
- Ask educated questions
- Don't memorize answers
- Be proactive by following up afterwards



WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM

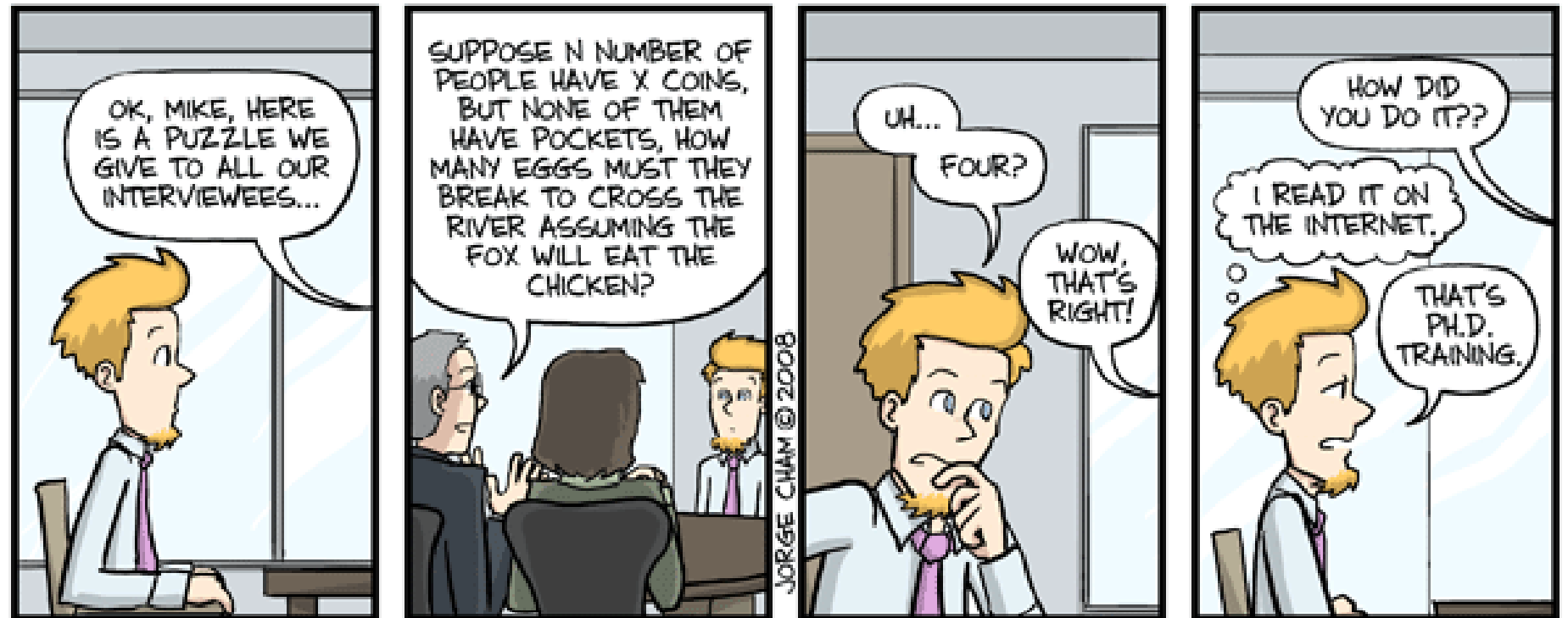
"Piled Higher and Deeper" by Jorge Cham

www.phdcomics.com

Negotiation

- Still okay to negotiate
- Be creative by asking about things other than salary

Creative Job Searching



WWW.PHDCOMICS.COM

"Piled Higher and Deeper" by Jorge Cham

www.phdcomics.com

Conclusion

- Job searches take time
- Stay positive

Resources

- Career Forum and 4,000+ articles on [ScienceCareers.org](https://www.sciencecareers.org)
- These slides available at [ScienceCareers.org/outreach](https://www.sciencecareers.org/outreach)
- Job Searching webinar available at [ScienceCareers.org/webinar](https://www.sciencecareers.org/webinar)