

Debadeep Bhattacharyya

Postdoc Department - Biochemistry and Biophysics

Postdoc Ended: August 2007

Interview Date, 7/30/07

Current Title: Applications Chemist

Institution / Company: Oxford Instruments, Boston, MA

How did you find out about your current position?

The position was advertised on the internet

What strategies or resources did you find most helpful during your job search?

The strategies and/or resources that I found to be useful are as follows:

- § *Spending some amount of time every day to search for positions that I wanted*
- § *Personal communications with people in respective companies (I initiated communication by first emailing them with an appreciation of one of their recently published papers)*
- § *Setting up agents in every career websites and also company websites*
- § *Checking opportunities on career website of UNC*
- § *Keeping in touch with people (contacts) in industry even though nothing worked out in that particular company and also if I did not get a prompt response from them*

Looking back on your time as a postdoc or your job search, what do you wish you would have done differently?

Start earlier than waiting for my first publication to come out. If industry is the preferred option, getting one or more publications may not contribute significantly. However, it takes time to develop network. Therefore, if I had started earlier to develop my network, I probably would have taken less time to find a job after initiating my active search for a position in industry

What career planning and/or job search advice do you have for current postdocs interested in your career field?

They are as follows:

- § *Know which type of position you would like to pursue i.e. in industry or academia*
- § *Start building network and developing contacts early*
- § *Keep in touch with your contacts even if you are not looking for jobs at that point of time*
- § *Once you begin your active search, be more frequent to email your contacts, even if their company does not have a position available to your liking*
- § *Be as sure as you can regarding the type of job you would like to have. Going for any position is not necessary a good idea, unless you are too pressed for time*