

Careers App: Helping students find out more about career options

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1. Why?

- Wide range careers for graduates, including those not using Physics [1]
- Career planning “can get a little confusing” [2] and students “don’t know where to start” [3]
- Methods to promote self-exploration useful [3]
- Some online quizzes are light-hearted conversation starters [4]

2. Aims of Careers Quiz?

- Ask simple questions that focus on work environment and skills used for daily activities
- Provide brief, reliable information on a wide range jobs typically chosen by physics graduates
- Inspire students to discuss possible careers
- Motivate students to find out more about careers by signposting to existing resources
- Make it easily accessible for all

3. How?

- Undergraduate interns working across institutions with access to two careers services
- Identified the most likely graduate jobs & resources
- Rated them for key skills & attributes
- BSc Project Student to evaluate

4. What? ([link to video introduction](#))

- Tree-structure quiz
- Results in several “Careers Cards” & links (Fig: Careers Card. Each box explained in alt. text)

	<p>Industry: Nuclear Engineering</p> <p>Role: Health and Safety specialist</p> <p>Work-Environment: Lab/Office</p>
<p>What I'll do:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • You will give advice and guidance concerning the possible hazards and dangers of nuclear related activities. • You will write safety reports & feedback 	<p>Pre-Conditions:</p> <p>2:1 degree classification</p>
<p>Physics usage </p> <p>Communication </p> <p>Coding </p> <p>Training on job </p> <p>Travel </p> <p>Starting salary </p>	

5. Progress so far?

- 53 Careers Cards ranging from Advertising Analyst to Trader
- Card concept = offline game in schools
- Webform quiz not quite ready for release
- Concept positively received by colleagues
- March 2020 evaluation strategy (Trial + focus groups) disrupted

6. Where next?

- Change webform format (Careers Cards as images does not meet website accessibility regulations)
- Online evaluation
- Make available beyond our institutions

7. References

- [1] The Institute of Physics (2012) *The Career Paths of Physics Graduates A Longitudinal study 2006–2010* https://www.iop.org/publications/iop/2012/file_55924.pdf [Accessed 10/08/20]
- [2] Smith, K (no date) *Your future with physics: Career Directions* http://www.iop.org/careers/undergrad--postgrad/your-future/page_64487.html#gref [Accessed 10/08/20]
- [3] Kerley, L, Offiler, B & Purcell, A (2018) *HESCU Report: Why do some first year undergraduate students not know where to start career planning despite wanting to?* <https://luminare.prospects.ac.uk/exploring-hesitant-students-perceptions-of-career-planning> [Accessed 10/08/20]
- [4] We think so – [Which Harry Potter House are you in?](#)