

Succeeding by Failing: The Iceberg in VIS Careers

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1 PANEL FORMAT

Failure is part of life and a fundamental learning experience particularly in scientific careers. Embracing failures and discussing them more openly with our peers, will not only make us better academics, but also reduce stress and feelings of hopelessness particularly among young researchers.

To achieve this goal, the panel will focus on **four core aspects** in this order:

A. Work-Life Balance Challenges We would like to raise awareness about the impact that highly demanding careers like academia can have on our social, emotional and mental health. Our schedule is typically packed with deadlines, leaving us with little or no time to process our thoughts and enjoy our work and life in general. This aspect will be introduced by C. C. Schubert: a psychologist, psychotherapist, part-time scientific researcher and yoga teacher. It will then be set to the visualization research context by S. Carpendale.

B. Reviews and Rejections Rejected papers cause frustration and demotivation. N. Elmqvist will share tips on how to deal with rejections, while G. E. Marai will provide recommendations on how to write supportive reviews.

C. Endurance and Uncertainties H. Hauser will talk about endurance through motivation, while D. Archambault will talk about career uncertainties brought about by fixed-term job positions.

D. Coping Mechanisms and Our Community Role J. Stasko and C. C. Schubert will discuss a number of coping mechanisms and ways how the community could support in this respect.

First-hand experiences, questions and comments will be anonymously collected from the community prior to IEEE VIS 2018 and during the panel itself using the browser-based system presem0 (<https://presem0.aalto.fi>). We will specifically ask for the audience's input after each aspect is discussed. In particular, we will ask the audience to answer survey questions to collect some statistics with respect to each aspect. Discussions will continue in a follow-up meetup at IEEE VIS 2018, where everyone (not just the panelists) will be invited to attend and participate. Answers to these questions, comments from the audience, and all points raised and discussed will be documented and later on presented to all VIS communities (InfoVis, VAST, SciVis). We hope that this feedback will help members of the committees make better informed decisions for the ongoing restructuring of the VIS community, taking into account comments of other, possibly less senior, VIS members. The organizers will maintain a website (<http://www.luanamicallef.com/succeedingbyfailing>) with all the outcomes of the panel and meetup, and other information such as coping mechanisms, how to seek help, and future events on this topic.

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2 PANEL SCHEDULE

The panel will take no more than 1 hour 40 mins. The organizers will be responsible of the following panel chairing duties, and neither will be panelists: introducing the next discussion point; timing the presentations, discussions and questions; checking and directing audience comments and questions (posted anonymously on presem0) to the respective panelist(s).

Intro	Organizers introduce the panel topic, panelists, format and presem0 to collect anonymous audience feedback	4 mins
	Panelists' introduce their topic	7 mins
Aspect A	Respective panelists raise awareness about the social and psychological impact of academic and VIS research careers on our well-being	12 mins
	Audience feedback and questions	10 mins
Aspect B	Respective panelists discuss how to deal with rejections and how to provide constructive reviews	12 mins
	Audience feedback and questions	10 mins
Aspect C	Respective panelists discuss the importance of motivation, and the hardships of fixed-term research jobs	12 mins
	Audience feedback and questions	10 mins
Aspect D	Respective panelists advice on how to deal with threats and how the community could help	12 mins
	Audience feedback and questions	10 mins
Closing	Organizers invite the audience to a follow-up meetup and remind them where all information from these and future events will be publicly available	1 min

After VIS, the organizers will commence a support network and apply for funding to organize events at major VIS venues to educate researchers on how to cope with academic pressures, and to train supervisors and research group leaders on how to nurture a healthy work environment. All up-to-date information on current, past and future events will be publicly available on a website maintained by the organizers (<http://www.luanamicallef.com/succeedingbyfailing>).