

How to start your own Growing up in Science series

Jun 6, 2023

Wei Ji Ma

A brief history

- Jul 8, 2014: Weiji holds an impromptu GUIS-style event during a visit to Radboud University, the Netherlands
- 2014: *Growing up in Science* starts at New York University (first year co-organized with Cristina Alberini)



A brief history

- 2017: Article in *Science*, “The stories behind the CV”



“Smooth and straight career paths are rare.”

A brief history

- 2015-2018: Local GUIS series start up in other places. E.g.
 - Summer 2015: Growing up in Science at the Donders Institute
 - March 2017: Paths in Psychological Science at the University of Denver
 - Oct 2018, first event at Columbia Zuckerman Institute
 - Nov 2018: first event of Growing up in Science Zurich
 - Jan 2019, first event at Penn MindCore, “Behind the CV: Stories from Faculty”
 - By 2023, over 20 local series

A brief history

- 2020: Global GUIS series starts (co-organized with Yael Niv and Veronica Caraffini)
 - Includes themed sessions on mentorship and anti-racism

A conversation with Angela Saini

Wed July 22, 2020 at 12:00 EDT



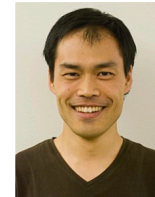
Angela Saini is the author of *Superior: the return of race science*.
Interviewer: Habon Issa (PhD student, New York University)

Fri Jul 10, 2020 at 12:30 EDT

On mentorship



Akiko Iwasaki
(immunobiology, Yale)



Wei Ji Ma (cognitive
science, NYU)



Yael Niv (cognitive
neuroscience, Princeton)



Jay Van Bavel (social
psychology, NYU)

A brief history

- 2023: Start of a *Growing up in Science* book!
 - Princeton University Press
 - Will focus on psychology and neuroscience
 - Please let me know (weijima@nyu.edu) if you know of compelling stories of PhDs in these areas.

Why Growing up in Science?

1. Close the gap between faculty and trainees
2. Make personal struggles less taboo
3. Create inclusive and open communities

What are the goals of PIPS?

In discussing the variety of professional development experiences that psychologists have had during their careers in academia, clinical work, policy, data science, and more, this series has two goals for trainees. **First**, to validate the variation in trainees' experiences with the variety of experiences shared by different psychologists. And **second**, to share lessons learned and perspective gained from life as a psychological scientist. Most broadly, PIPS aims to reduce "imposter syndrome", to dispel myths surrounding graduate education and academia, and to give trainees greater appreciation for their own paths.



Donders Institute for Brain, Cognition and Behaviour

We launched the "Growing up in science" series in 2016 to decrease a perceived gap between students, PhD candidates and more experienced scientists. Questions, such as "Do you have hobbies?", "Do you procrastinate?", "What do you like most about doing research?" will be asked and discussed during the event. The discussion is not supposed to be about scientific content or general career advice, but rather about the individual career, life and experiences of one scientist at a time.

What to pay attention to?

- Audience (e.g. which departments)
- Speaker pool
- Speaker selection
- Meeting frequency
- Meeting format (moderators? interview?)
- Organizing committee (faculty? students?)
- Encouraging honesty
- Recording and sharing

GUIS organizers mailing list

- For announcements of Global events and as a support group.
- Annual Organizers meeting
- Prospective organizers are welcome to join the mailing list and/or the annual meeting.
- To get on the mailing list, email me at weijima@nyu.edu.