

# Top 10 Career Mistakes

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# A few words about me

IT studies: BSc and MSc in Informatics, University of Oslo

Academic research: PhD in Maths, Oxford University, Fellow Magdalen College

Teaching: Prof in Saudi Arabia, Advisor in China

Software Development: DEC SRC in Silicon Valley, Alta Vista

Business studies: MBA at INSEAD

Management: Fast Search 6 Transfer, Microsoft

Business Development: Boards and investments GeoKnowledge, Camo, Sonitor

Board Work: Statkraft, Norsk Tipping, Aschehoug, Making Waves, Norman



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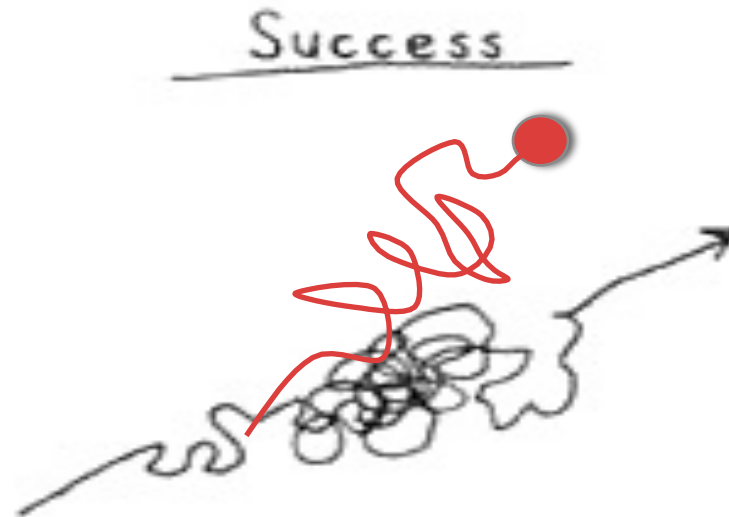
# Lessons learned

1. **INSEAD: organizational behavior**
2. **OXFORD: eccentrics and hard work**
3. **IFI: nerds and friends**
4. **SAUDI: adjusting expectations**
5. **FAST: being on a mission**
6. **BOARDS: people and complexity**
7. **MSFT: process and professionalism**

# The Road To Success



what people think  
it looks like



what it really  
looks like

# Top 10 Do-NOT's

1. Don't confuse the road with the goals
2. Don't wait for certainty and absence of risk
3. Don't hold your horses
4. Don't forget your mentors and partners
5. Don't blend in
6. Don't compromise
7. Don't lose your flexibility
8. Don't forget your driving forces
9. Don't forget your work-life balance
10. Don't forget to have fun

# Practical advice



Head hunters

Networking

Individual meetings

# READ!

## All creativity is combinatorial:

1. DN, Aftenposten,...
2. New Yorker, Economist,...
3. Books1: “American Prometheus”,...
4. Books2: “This will make you smarter”,...
5. Bloggs: Monday Morning, Brain Pickings,...
6. Videos: TED (JillBL), Jobs, Christensen,...

*...more on this in a separate presentation*

# Get out on the dance floor

A woman in a long, flowing white dress is captured in a dynamic dance pose in a studio. She is looking upwards and to the left, with her arms raised. The dress is billowing out around her. In the background, other dancers in similar white dresses are visible, some in motion, creating a sense of a rehearsal or performance. The studio has large windows and a wooden floor.

“Hide not your talents, they for use were made,  
What's a sundial in the shade?”  
— Benjamin Franklin

Think relevant PR



# Be proud of the diversity you bring

**“Strength lies in differences,  
not in similarities”  
— Stephen R. Covey**



**Remember:  
all good  
things take  
time!**

**“Don't worry about  
losing. If it is right, it  
happens - The main thing  
is not to hurry. Nothing  
good gets away.”**

**John Steinbeck**



# Thank you!

For more inspiration about careers and management:

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