SLAS Launchpad

Your Future In Focus

In this edition, we're diving into the PhD journey—when to pursue one, what to expect and how others have navigated the path. Explore personal stories, insights into the PhD pipeline and discover SLAS resources that can support you every step of the way.

# RECOMMENDED READS

### The PhD Pipeline Seems Broken



By: Srijit Seal, PhD with contributions from Arijit Patra, DPhil The first article in our LaunchPad Library is an insightful read that dives deep into how the current PhD system is falling short, the accessibility of PhDs, the impact of AI, reclaiming its true purpose and more. Stay tuned for a special episode of the SLAS New Matter podcast, where we'll be hosting the writers to hear directly from them.

#### **Read Here**



## The Pros and Cons of Getting a PhD

Gain insight into what it truly means to commit to a PhD, including the long-term career impact, personal challenges and academic demands. A valuable read for current grad students reflecting on their path or considering next steps in research or industry.

#### **Read Here**

## A PhD Examined: Academia vs. Industry

Explore a personal journey grappling with the challenges of academia versus industry. This honest reflection offers valuable insight into the pressures, trade-offs and decisions that many grad students face when shaping their careers.

#### **Read Here**



# **ASK YOURSELF ?**

- Am I passionate enough about a specific field or research topic to commit several years to studying it deeply?
- Would work experience help clarify whether I need or want a PhD?
- Have I spoken with people who've done it to understand what the experience is really like?
- Do I have a clear reason why I want a PhD, beyond academic pressure or expectations?

# SLAS RESOURCES



**Mentor Match Program** – Connect with mentors for personalized advice, fresh perspectives and insider tips—whether they're nearby or across the globe.



**SLAS Career Connections** – Find job openings, post your resume and get custom job alerts delivered straight to your inbox.



**Topical Interest Groups** & **Events** – Join one of 18 TIGs, attend an SLAS conference or connect at a local meet-up to explore your interests and grow your career.

# SLAS Launchpad Library

#### Want to Write for Us?

We've launched the new Launchpad Library—a hub of student-written content and career resources. Have an article idea? Please contact **Alliyah Chamberlain** 



The **SLAS2026 Call for Abstracts** is now open! We encourage you to submit an abstract and apply for the **SLAS Travel Award or Student Poster Award**. Find all the deadlines **here**—it's a great opportunity to get involved, showcase your work and grow your network.

## Your Future is our Focus

SLAS is your gateway to opportunities that strengthen your career trajectory. From networking with industry leaders to gaining hands-on experience, we're here to support your journey in life sciences discovery and technology. Questions? Please contact SLAS Membership Manager, **Gina Anzalone**.



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