

CBE WOMEN CAREER SEMINAR

OCTOBER 2ND FROM 11 TO 12 PM

STEP 1: GET A PHD, STEP 2: ?????, STEP 3: PROFIT!!
ALLEN YANG



Education: Carnegie Mellon, BS Chemical Engineering 2005
Cornell University, PhD Chemical Engineering 2010
Advisors: David Erickson and Abe Stroock
Dissertation: Nanophotonic Biomolecular Optical Traps

After completing his PhD, Allen did his post-doc at UC Santa Barbara where he worked on developing microfluidic devices for high-speed cell sorting and medical diagnostics. In 2014, he joined Thorlabs, in NJ, to work on product development for optical fiber and advanced technologies. In 2019, he joined General Dynamics Mission Systems as an Advanced Optics Engineer where he is contributing to a number of innovative R&D projects.

ABSTRACT

The most common question a PhD student asks themselves is: "Why is my experiment/simulation not working?"

But after that, "What will I do for a career after graduating?", is likely the one that keeps you up at night.

And the answer is not trivial; it is both deeply personal and also subject to the circumstances of the world around us.

Thankfully, PhD graduates are well prepared to have fulfilling careers in both academia and industry.

I hope to shed some light on the roles that PhDs can have in industry; these roles can include R&D, business, management, and others.

In addition, I'll discuss the soft skills that you can begin developing as a grad student that will help prepare you for the challenges of an academic or industry career.