

## former series of talks of ex-MPA PhD students (2006/2007)

Rudolf Stehle	Oliver Wyman	Life beyond the universe
Klaus Schenker	BNP Parisbas	Astrophysics and Investment Banking
Rudolf Fischer	NEC Europe	What do you want?
Carolin Pfeiffer	BMW Group	
Udo Weigel	Patent Attorney	
Ralph Mönchmeyer	IT Project Manager	Free(?)lancers - individualists or mercenaries?
Reinhard Breuer	GEO, Daimler, Sci.Am.	How does one become a science communicator and what does (s)he do?

## Some statistics concerning PhD students & postdocs at MPA

year	# of students	# of theses finished	# who left science	# who became professors	# of postdocs
2000	36	8	4	2	28
2001	36	6	4	0	31
2005	36	8	1	4	48
2006	40	6	2	1	45
2007	53	8	2	1	44
2008	66	11	1		55
2009	62	8	3		60
2010	56	19	6 ?		67
2011	61	15	2?		66
2012	61	16	6 ?		58

funding of astrophysical research strongly increased in past decade  
→ more temporary positions created

# Some issues to consider for a career in science & business

(biased by my own experience)

- \* Je planmäßiger Menschen vorgehen, desto wirksamer trifft sie der Zufall  
The more humans proceed according to plan, the more effectively they suffer from coincidence  
Friedrich Dürrenmatt
- \* Follow your interests, don't jump on every fashion
- \* Don't worry too much, if convinced of something
- \* Be authentic, try to develop a unique selling point (USP)
- \* Get into contact, make yourself known
- \* Do both strategic work and bread & butter projects
- \* If you have to leave science,
  - there is a way of life in doing business without sacrificing your nature of being a physicist
  - don't feel expelled from paradise, but grapple with your own future and take charge of your career outside science