Julian Little

FarmRound2016: a career afternoon in Agri-Tech
Queens College, Cambridge
Bayer Crop Science
This is what we do

Chemicals
- Herbicides
- Fungicides
- Insecticides
- Seed Growth Products

Biologics
- Microbial fungicides
- Microbial insecticides

Seeds
- Canola, cotton, rice, soy, wheat, vegetables

Grower benefits:
- Higher yield
- Supreme quality
- Convenience
- Risk management

In addition we offer Professional products through our Environmental Science business
Career Path – academic?

**Academic**
- **Degree in Biochemistry**
  - University College Swansea
  - Rationale – loved Biology & Chemistry but especially relating to plants

**Academic**
- **PhD Molecular Plant Pathology**
  - University College Swansea
  - Rationale – understanding of the molecular aspects of how plants respond to infection

**STOP**
- Post-doc?
- Then what
Career Path – science in industry?

Science in Industry
- **Plant Biochemist**
  - Rhone-Poulenc Agriculture
  - Enzyme assays to understand the mechanism of action of herbicides

Science in Industry
- **Fungal Biochemist**
  - RP Agrochimie, Lyon
  - Enzyme assays to understand the mechanism of action of fungicides, at corporate HQ

Science in Industry
- **Project / Research Group Leader**
  - Rhone-Poulenc / Aventis
  - Leading groups of biochemists, biologists and chemists in research programme

STOP
- Departmental head?
- Then what?
Career Path – science communication?

- **Science Communications**
  - Aventis / Bayer
  - Talking about Genetically Modified Crops on radio, TV and at public meetings

- **Communications**
  - Bayer
  - Talking about GM and pesticide related issues in the media

- **Communications & Government Affairs**
  - Bayer
  - Talking about anything agricultural to anyone who wants to have a conversation

- ????
  - What next???
EU should help not hinder innovation

In 2015, I was invited to speak at a "Knowledge & Innovations" meeting at the European Parliament in Brussels on "smarter regulation and innovation for EU agriculture". The hundred mile punch, the climate change talks in Paris were in progress and some of the participants were wondering what today’s agriculture in a new world would mean.

On what we have. That way, progress could be made, and some of the real issues around feeding large numbers of people with loss land, water and fertiliser, could be addressed.

Europe currently has its regulatory systems in the when it comes to pesticides even if the European food.

To the members of the European Commission and European Parliament... did they really want innovation in agriculture, or were they happy for the rest of the world to think of Europe as a very large museum of agriculture?

Glyphosate 'witch hunt' a 'sad indictment' says Bayer's Julian Little

28 April 2016, by Matthew Applegate. Be the first to comment

Bayer's Dr Julian Little has said recent campaigns to ban glyphosate, which have led to a EC Environment Committee recommending banning use in parks, gardens and those renting, as well as seven rather than $5 year extension of use make no sense.

Horticulture Week

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UK missing GM ben

Sirl: The Agricultural Biotechnology Council welcomes environment secretary Owen Paterson's speech at the Oxford Farming Conference, as reported on your website ('Don't be afraid to make case for GM, Paterson tells farmers', thegrocer.co.uk, 3 January). UK research into agricultural technologies is addressing the challenge of feeding a growing global population. GM crops are bringing higher yields.

Garden centres urged to drop bug killer to protect bees

Nine garden centre chains including M&G and Tesco have stock products containing neonicotinoid horticultural insecticides. The decision, says Defra, will prevent unnecessary use of a product recognised as toxic to bees.
Communications & Government Affairs
My Recommendations

• Never EVER *work* for a living – (always ALWAYS) find a role that you enjoy

• Always ALWAYS take any opportunity to try out new things – internships, work experience, short sabbaticals

• Always say yes to training courses – you will often meet/hear useful people/ideas on them

• Always keep your mind open to the alternatives

• When working in industry, whether in a science or business role, the best people are those who can communicate across disciplines and across silos
Thank you

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