



## Staff Career Connections

Members of this Slack workspace are willing to share information about their job fields and career experiences. Reach out to any member to learn more about what they do and feel free to join the group yourself.

### What is an Informational Interview?

Networking and informational interviewing are career exploration strategies that help you learn about how your interests and skills align with different career fields and job roles at MIT. An informational interview is an informal conversation where you can connect with colleagues to learn more about a person's particular job field, position, and career experiences.

### How can Informational Interviewing help me manage my career at MIT?

It provides a way for you to:

- Learn about the mission and goals of a school, department, lab or center
- Understand how your interests and transferable skills align with MIT's organizational needs
- Obtain job field information regarding preparation, experience needed and growth potential
- Expand your possibilities by learning about job roles, projects or work environments that you may not have considered
- Narrow your options by determining your priorities and the best fit with your talents
- Gain knowledge about critical skills or knowledge needed for the future
- Get advice on your development plan or future job search strategy
- Learn more about how others have made transitions at various stages

### Who should I interview?

Anyone in a position, role, or department that interests you! You can start with the list of people who have joined this group – all of our members are willing to answer your questions.

### How do I set up an informational interview?

1. Reach out to someone directly on Slack or by email. Together, you can arrange a time to meet face to face. Meeting with someone by Zoom or in person is more effective than a phone call or email exchange, and people are more likely to share referrals from their network if they have met with you face to face. See our document [How to Arrange an Informational Interview](#) for more on how to prepare.
  2. Post an inquiry to the Staff Career Connections Slack workspace for recommendations from Institute colleagues about those in roles about which you like to learn more. Once you have some possible names, you can then reach out to those individuals directly.
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