

The 1st IReNA-Ukakuren Joint Workshop “Advancing Professional Development in Nuclear Astrophysics and Beyond”

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Navigating the intertwined paths of a nuclear physics career

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Nuclear physics is a fascinating discipline with clearly defined objectives: understanding the properties and behavior of atomic nuclei and their connection to the fundamental laws of physics and the nuclear processes that affect the evolution of the cosmos, and finding way to apply this knowledge to the benefit of society. As in other fields of science, the work required to achieve these goals requires a surprising breadth of tasks and skills, often distributed among members of research teams with specialized roles. Thus, the nuclear physics workforce includes a group of scientists with a diverse set of interests and expertise. There are many alternatives for those interested in a research career in nuclear physics, but navigating the various available career paths can be a daunting prospect since the formal coursework of a physics degree often does not cover aspects of the day-to-day life of a working physicist. In this presentation we will discuss strategies and alternatives to forge research career paths in nuclear physics and related fields of science.

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