

# Career Connection: Dr. Warren Wakarchuk

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Watch the video <https://vimeo.com/227663014#at=0> and answer the following questions:

1. Dr. Wakarchuk's area of study is described as glycobiology. What is this? What do the sugars that he researches do and why are they important?
2. What are biofuels? How can they be used as a source of energy?
3. What does he mean when he says that "building them up (molecules) is far more interesting than breaking them down?"
4. Does it surprise you that Dr. Wakarchuk says that a PhD is a minimum for his job but the discipline is not crucial (Biology, Chemistry, Biochemistry, Medical Physics)? Why does he say this?

Last update: April, 2020

5. There are two skills that Dr. Wakarchuk mentions as being important to being a principal investigator. What are they and why are they important? Do you possess these skills? Are they appealing skills to have?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
6. What is medical physics? Use the Internet to search for the answer.
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
7. a) Dr. Wakarchuk says that the best part of the job is that he works with people that are interested in “finding out stuff.” Is that a driving force in your life? In your life as a student, what is the motivating force? b) Reflect: As you move into the working phase of your life, what do you want the motivating force to be?
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
  
8. When asked about the best and worst aspects of the job, Dr. Wakarchuk mentions that he is an introvert. Do you think that certain jobs involving people are best done by extroverts? What is an introvert (do some Internet research to answer this)? What is an extrovert? What role does this characteristic play in your choice of career?

Last update: April, 2020

9. Describe the moment that turned Dr. Wakarchuk onto science. Do you love science? If so, what do you love about it? Did you have a moment like his?

10. What is the role of failure in science and the scientific method, according to Dr. Wakarchuk?

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