Whether you are in a position or exploring future academic opportunities, it is always important to intentionally consider your options and next steps.

How can I best prepare for a transition?

**Plan Ahead**

We Recommend:
- Planning at least 6 months before a position ends
- Reaching out to your network for guidance
- Considering the academic timeline of the country where you work

**This will help you:**
- Minimize Uncertainties
- Maximize your Opportunities
PLANNING AHEAD

What do you think is important to consider as you explore next steps?

1. Security
2. Scholarship
3. Family
4. Legal Status
5. Moving
6. Additional Items?

PLANNING AHEAD: SECURITY

• Assess the situation in your home country
• Discuss your options with family and friends

Consider: Is returning home a safe option at this time?

PLANNING AHEAD: SCHOLARSHIP

• Where might you be able to best contribute your expertise?
• Are there available academic opportunities in that location?
• What resources will help this process?
PLANNING AHEAD: FAMILY

Most scholars share that they make decisions about next steps in conversation with family and friends.

What are the important questions to discuss?

PLANNING AHEAD: LEGAL STATUS

• What is your current legal status?
• Is it tied to your academic position?
• Are there options to change your status to a different category?

Consider: What resources and individuals may be able to offer guidance on immigration and legal status in your current country of residence?

PLANNING AHEAD: MOVING

Consider: Are you and your family prepared to move? And if so, where?

• Available jobs?
• Language?
• Immigration needs?
• Logistics?
• Network?
PLANNING AHEAD

Keeping this all in mind the question remains, do you:

- Return Home?
- Seek continued opportunities at your current university?
- Move to a new location altogether?

RETURNING HOME

If you have determined it is safe to return home, SAR suggests making advanced plans for your academic future and personal security.

RETURNING HOME: YOUR NETWORK

Before returning, we recommend continuing to develop your network.

Why? Your existing and new contacts can help bolster your academic career at home and abroad in a variety of ways.
RETURNING HOME: OPPORTUNITY?

Are you returning home to continue your academic work? If so, what will be necessary to do so?

Helpful materials:
- References
- Letters of Support from International Colleagues
- Updated CV/ Cover Letter

RETURNING HOME: SECURITY

We find that it is always advisable to take extra precautions for your security.

Some suggestions include:
- Secure Communications
- Communicating plans with trusted contacts
- Developing a Back-Up Plan

STAYING ABROAD

If you determine that it is safer to remain abroad, you may consider whether you can continue your work in your current location, or whether you would be best suited to expand your search to new locations.
**STAYING ABROAD: CONTINUE ON**

If you are interested in continuing on in the university where you are currently working, we recommend expressing that clearly and as soon as possible.

Such opportunities are likely contingent upon:

- Funding
- Academic Fit
- Capacity/Space
- Additional Factors

What can you do to move this conversation along?

**STAYING ABROAD: CONTINUE ON**

If you would like to stay, but your university cannot extend your position:

Explore the barriers and consider your options:

- **Funding:** Can you apply for external funding?
- **Independent Positions:** Can you apply for open call positions?
- **Network:** Can your mentor connect you with new contacts in the university or nearby institutions?

This is an ideal time to seek guidance and feedback on your performance.

**STAYING ABROAD: MOVING ON**

If you are interested in finding an academic opportunity in a new location, SAR is open to discussing options both within the SAR network and beyond.
STAYING ABROAD: MOVING ON
When exploring new academic opportunities, SAR often advises scholars to remain flexible and proactive.

- Collaborate with SAR
- Update your academic materials
- Connect with broader academic network

STAYING ABROAD: THE NETWORK
Over 500 institutions in 39 countries, including ‘sections’ in Canada, Ireland, Netherlands & Belgium (with UAF), Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, United Kingdom (with CARA), Germany, Finland, United States, and Poland.

STAYING ABROAD: EXTERNAL RESOURCES
Outside of the SAR network, you have access to numerous helpful academic resources, including:

- Courses within the community and/or university
- Vocational Training opportunities
- Employment and Career Services Centers
- Partner Organization
- Online Resources
- Your Network
**STAYING ABROAD: INDEPENDENT APPLICATIONS**

How do you identify and prepare suitable applications for open-call academic positions?

- Explore job search aggregates
- Explore university websites
- Consider a wide variety of positions
- Consult academic contacts
- Tailor materials
- Be intentional about reference requests

**WHAT NEXT?**

When concluding an academic visit or merely considering your future opportunities, it is important to:

- Take advantage of the resources available to you
  - Thank your colleagues
  - Ask for references
  - Invite guidance and advice
  - Remain active and flexible

**DISCUSSION**

What are skills or strategies that you have used or seen others use to get through a difficult transition?
Thank you!