



What I learned from my job market experience

Yoko Okuyama
Uppsala University
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It is your turn to go on the market –

**First of all, congratulations
for making it all the way here!**

There's really no one-size-fits-all advice.

But I give some food for thought
based on my own experience.

Questions and comments are welcome!

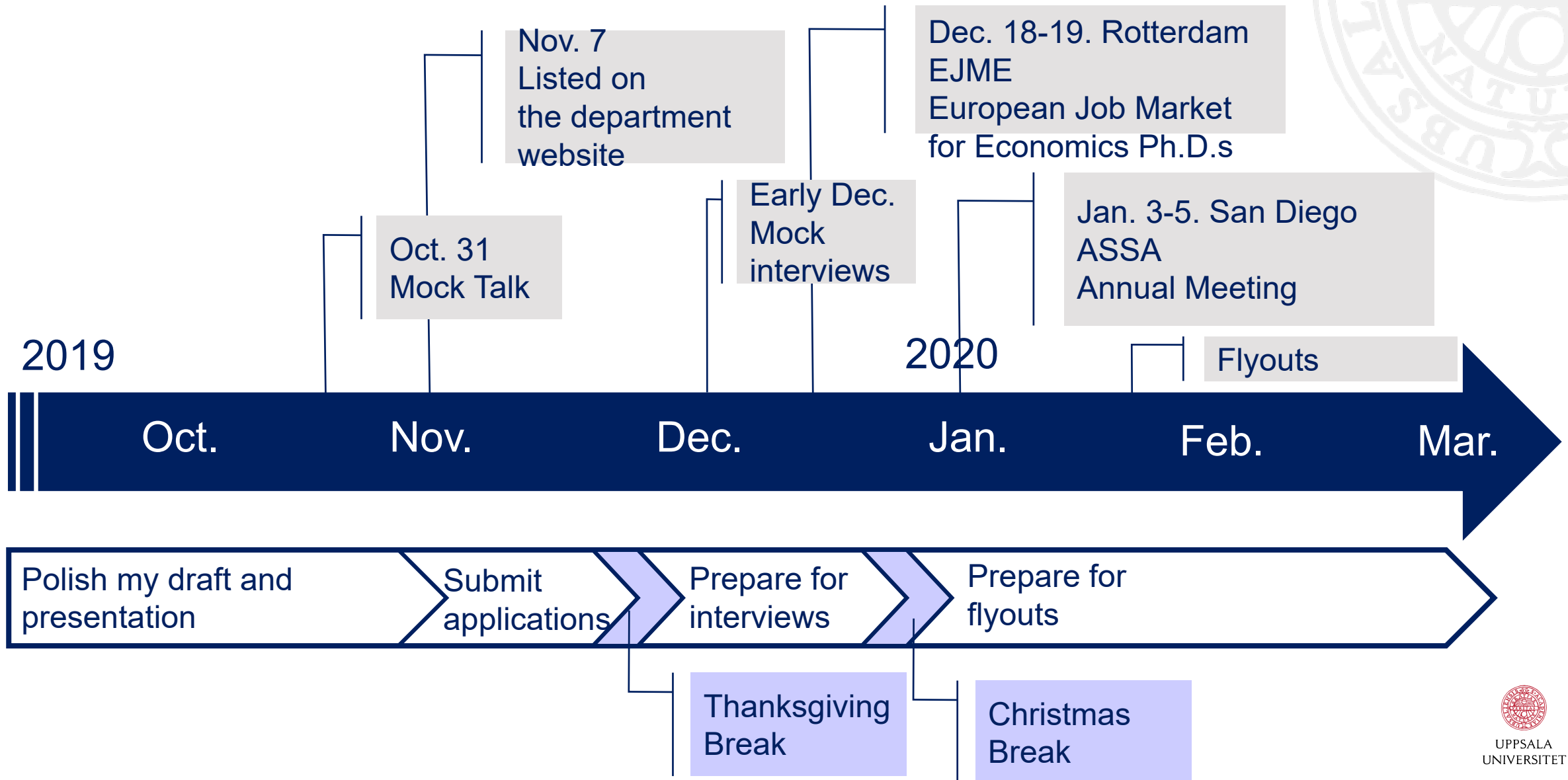


Who am I?

- Assistant professor at **Uppsala** University 2020-.
- Originally from Japan and did Ph.D. in the US (Yale) .
- On the 2019/2020 **European & US job market**.
- Research interests are **labor economics** and **political economics** from **gender** perspectives.
- Interested in jobs in **academia** (and the government).



The job search is like a marathon





My three principles to handle the econ job market with grace

1. Know your work and life priorities
2. Focus on what is within your control
3. Take a good care of yourself





1

Know your work and life priorities



1. Know your work and life priorities

- What do you value the most?
 - Types of jobs (academia, government, industry ...)
 - Types of work environment
 - Contract period
 - Location
 - Salary, compensation and benefits
 - Possibility of spousal hiring
 - Visa sponsorship
 - Teaching load
 - Available research funding
 - Data access
 - Experimental facilitiesetc
- Discuss them with people who you care about (your advisors & family)



Knowing priorities helped me ...

- To be open-minded to apply for more positions
 - If you do not apply, you do not get interviewed.
 - The gender gap in the #. of applications (?)
- To take educated risks
 - Would I like to accept this **exploding offer**?
 - Crucial to be prepare to take a risk (if you want to)





2

Focus on what is within your control



2. Focus on what is within your control

- Polish your draft
 - E.g., Chaubey "The Little Book of Research Writing" 2018th edition
- Prepare for your presentation & interviews
 - E.g., Eliana La Ferrara "How to Present Your Job Market Paper"
- Practice how to handle questions
 - Make a list of questions that you've received in the past. Practice how to handle them with your classmates.
- Make a list of questions/conversation openers that you can use during flyouts
 - Be curious about others' work, too.
- Make interview-day/flyout-day checklists



Some ideas for the online interview-day/flyout-dat checklist

Before interviews / seminars,

- Check lighting angle and warmth. Try it at different times of the day.
- Set up your webcam so that you can make eye contact.
- Mute your phone. But keep it face-up by your side just in case your recruiter wants to reach out to you by phone.
- Restart your computer (~an hour before)
- Fully charge your devices (computer, wireless earphones, ipads ... and whatever you may use)
- Turn off notification on the computer
- Use wired internet (if you know your wifi connection is unstable)
- Clear the desktop.
- Set up dual monitors if possible.



Trouble happens! Don't get panicked.

Here are some ideas for backup plans

- Have organizer/host's phone number handy to text/call if problems
- Setup the wifi hotspot through the cellphone as a backup. (This helps in case of a blackout)
- Have handy a phone dial-in number for the Zoom/Webex/etc room
- Send slides in advance in case you wind up audio only



3

Take a good care of yourself



3. Take a good care of yourself

- Keep some sense of normalcy.
 - Keep a regular sleep schedule.
 - Eat well.
 - Do exercise regularly.
- Curve out time for a quality break.
 - Spend quality time with family and friends.
 - No need to feel uncomfortable to take a break.
- Keep digital sanity.
 - Put your phone away when your sleep.
 - Use technologies to keep a healthy distance from the online world (Apps such as Stay Focused, AppBlock, and, for Twitter, @blockpartyapp_ ... etc.)



**“Neither interviews nor flyouts are exams.
It’s a process to find a good match”**

Try to be the best version of yourself,
and enjoy the chance to meet new people.





Thanks!

<https://www.okuyamayoko.com/>
yoko.okuyama@nek.uu.se



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Appendix:

Econ job market resources

- About the econ job market
 - European Job Market by EEA
 - Guide to the European Job Market by David Schnindler
 - Understanding the job market by AEA
- Links to some public goods
 - Ph.D. Job Market Resources by Boston University Econ Department
 - Beamer Tips by Paul Goldsmith-Pinkham
 - Job Market Resources by Johannes Pfeifer
 - Advice for current and aspiring academic economists by Jennifer Doleac

