

## **A Factor in Research Work - The Individual Researcher & Their Life**

*"Life is a journey that Must be traveled no Matter how bad the roads and accommodations."*

-Oliver Goldsmith

The life-long path in research is like the path in life in general, with both rough and smooth patches of roads. Many factors affect the direction a would-be researcher takes, including early mentoring, inherent abilities to do research, availability of monies, and personality of the researcher, including willingness to take risks. In my own case, I had a love for mathematics and algebra, which was fostered in High School and College. I was hired as Assistant Professor, Visiting and Univ of South Carolina, Columbia. It was only visiting as just as I arrived for my interviews and talk, the State had a financial crunch. I worked for 2 years and in the second year I did my pre-med courses and with the Dean's letter of recommendation, I went into Medical School. Then, I did 2 years of Psychiatry at UC Davis Medical Center and then went to NIH for training in PET. My career has also had 2 more major changes one affected by a serious car accident.

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