Self-Assessment: Values

People have unique sets of qualities they value above others in their work. What characteristics do you value in your career?

1. Go through the list and circle the values that must be present in your work for you to be satisfied. If an important value is missing, add it to the list.
2. Looking at the circled entries, select your top eight.
3. Sort the top eight in order of importance to you and rank them 1-8.
4. Keep your important values in mind as you consider your career options. Your list may change over time, so reevaluate it periodically.

___ Adventure: I want a career with high levels of excitement and risk-taking.
___ Enjoyment: I want a high level of personal satisfaction.
___ Expertise: I want to become a subject-level expert in my field.
___ Location: The geographic location of my work is important to me.
___ Entrepreneurship: I want to develop my own projects and ideas.
___ Structure: I want to work with clearly defined policies and procedures.
___ Family/personal life: A balance between personal and work is important.
___ Challenge: I want to solve difficult but interesting problems.
___ Social service: It is important that my work benefits society.
___ Recognition: It is important that my accomplishments are acknowledged.
___ Variety: I prefer to work on many different things all the time.
___ Wealth from income: Income from my job is very important.
___ Creativity: Creating new ideas, objects, or programs is important.
___ Job stability: I want a reasonable assurance of long-term employment.
___ People contact: I want to work directly with a large number of people.
___ Independence: I work best on my own by doing things my own way.
___ Pace: A fast-paced, high-pressure environment is where I work best.
___ Authority: I want to make decisions, set policies, and guide others’ work.
___ Ethics & values: My work must match my personal values and beliefs.
___ Advancement: I value the chance to advance rapidly in my field.
___ Knowledge: In my job I want to learn more and expand my skills.
___ Aesthetics: I need to be involved in an aesthetic environment.