This paper shows how someone with an educational and research background in chem. and the life sciences (BS and MS in Chem., PhD in Microbiol.) could maintain for many years parallel interests in citation indexing that led to a seamless transition to a new career in information science and librarianship. From working at the lab bench and publishing in scientific journals, to joining a scientific publisher (ACS) as a librarian, and finally, to going back to academic life (University of Maryland, College Park) to manage a chem. library and teach chem. information were career turns that required strong motivation and depended to a large degree on timing.