

PRACTICAL PERSPECTIVES  
**TAKE CHARGE OF YOUR CAREER**

"People spend more time planning their vacations than their careers. We allow our careers to take on a life of their own, or we allow somebody else to semi-manage the career for us.

I recommend that people really stop, look at themselves, examine their interests, their values, their work skills. See if other people see you the way you see yourself. Next, look around, uncover trends in your company, in your industry. Really get savvy about what's going on. Also, look at learning pathways, new ways to learn new skills. The looking around includes looking ahead, identifying your own goals, identifying alliances and support, and really crafting a plan.

It really is doing your due diligence just as you would if you were planning to go to Italy. You're looking at multiple sources of information, not just one, and you're really trying to figure out what fits for you and your situation."

- Sharon Jordan-Evans, co-author (with Beverly Kaye), *Love It, Don't Leave It: 26 Ways to Get What You Want at Work*, (Berrett-Koehler, 2003, \$17.95)

