

Gerhard Lauer

CV of Failures

Successes are visible, failures are often invisible, telling together a wrong story about my academic career. Writing a CV of Failures is an attempt to counterbalance the bias and provide some perspective instead of giving the impression that most things work out for me.

The idea for a CV of Failures is not mine, but inspired by a thought-provoking article in [Nature](#) by biomedical scientist [Melanie Stefan](#) and other colleagues, following Melanie Stefan's example [here](#) and [here](#). As CVs in general also this CV is unlikely to be complete, due to my memory and due to the many ways, we tell us streamlined story about our self. Here is what I remember:

Degree programmes I did not get into

1983 Medical study programme

Academic positions and fellowships I did not get

1990 Cusanuswerk fellowship for gifted students (MA)

2004 Professorship for German studies at the University of Basel

2005 Professorship for German studies at the University of Vienna

Research funding I did not get

2015 Volkswagen Stiftung Research Grant

2017 University of Goettingen Research Funding

2017/2018 European Union's Horizon 2020 research and innovation programme

2019 Swiss National Science Foundation Research Grant