

A. Shekoofa, Ph.D.

“Most of what I try fails, but these failures are often invisible, while the successes are visible. I have noticed that this sometimes gives others the impression that most things work out for me. As a result, they are more likely to attribute their own failures to themselves, rather than the fact that the world is stochastic, applications are crashshots, and selection committees and referees have bad days.” **JOHANNES HAUSHOFER**

I love the idea of **Melanie I. Stefan** [here](#) (published in Nature) about “A CV OF FAILURES”. I think I heard about it almost a year ago and I thought it’s a cool idea. I may do it one day. Recently, I received two emails informing me that my applications for two awards were rejected. Of course, I wasn’t happy at all. First, I thought let’s forget about them-I mean I was willing to hide them, as M.I. Stefan mentioned too often we (scientists) hide our failures. But shortly after that, I came across **Johannes Haushofer’s** CV of failures. And here we are (Please keep this in mind since I wasn’t tracking my failures-as we all love to only keep track of our successes not failures, the CV is way shorter than what it should be):

AVAT SHEKOOFA, Ph.D.

CV of failures

Degree programs I did not get into

2011	PhD fellow, Life sciences, University of Copenhagen, Denmark
2011	International PhD program, the Biozentrum of the University of Basel, Switzerland
2007	PhD in Plant Biology, Erasmus Mundus, University of Milan, Italy
2005	Graduate school, University of Helsinki, Finland
1998	Medical school, University of Tehran, Iran

Academic positions and fellowships I did not get

2015	UC Berkeley, Assistant Professor, Agroecology/Sustainable Agricultural, USA
2014	Postdoctoral Sustainability Science Fellowships, Harvard University, USA
2013	UC Davis, Assistant Professor in Plant Science-Crop Ecology/Agroecology, USA

Awards and scholarships I did not get

2017	Ralph E. Powe Junior Faculty Enhancement Awards, ORNL, USA
2017	The APB Travel Award for Plant Biology 2017, Hawaii, USA
2016	Women's Young Investigator Travel Award ASPB, USA
2012	UNESCO-L'OREAL International Fellowships for Young Women-2012, UNESCO
2011	Vavilov-Frankel Fellowships, Bioversity International, Italy

Paper rejections from academic journals

2016	Nature
2016	J of Exp. Botany
2015	Crop Science
2012	Annals of Botany, Oxford Academic
2010	Journal of Agricultural Science, Cambridge

Research funding I did not get

2018	NASA-Target Cotton ISS, USA
2017	UT AgResearch Innovation, USA
2015	Innovation grant, Bayer Crop Science, USA
2012	Peanut genome proposal, The peanut Foundation, USA