Staff Engineering

A technical alternative to management

Annie Vella

Who Am I?

CURRENTLY

- DISTINGUISHED ENGINEER, WESTPAC NZ

EDUCATION

- VICTORIA UNIVERSITY, 2000-2003

EXPERIENCE

- INDIVIDUAL CONTRIBUTOR, 2004-2014

- TECHNICAL LEADERSHIP*, 2014-2023

FUN FACTS

- FELL IN LOVE WITH COMPUTERS AT 6 YEARS OLD

- LIVED IN 7 COUNTRIES AND SPEAK 3 LANGUAGES

- WORKED IN 4 COUNTRIES AND 11 INDUSTRIES
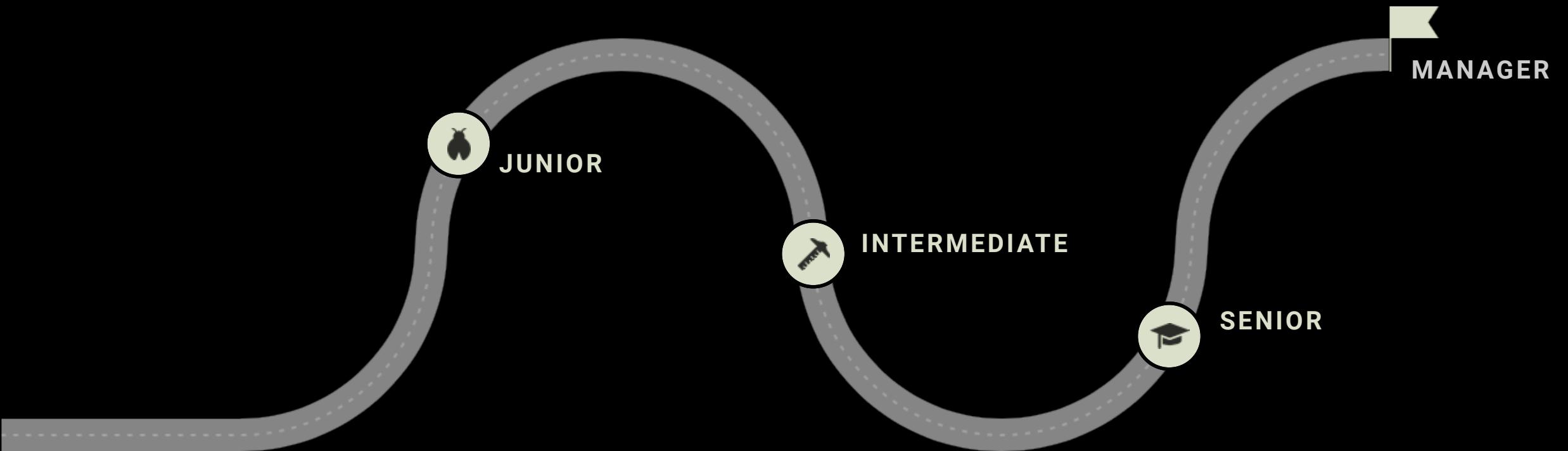
# Why Staff Engineering?
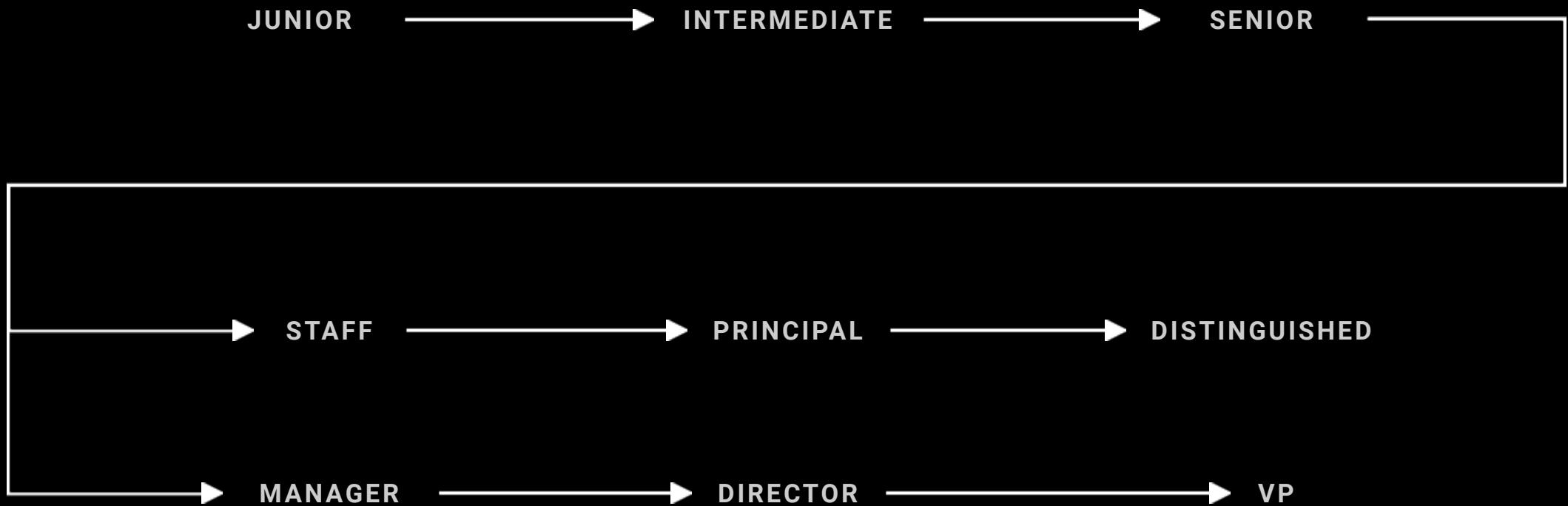
Careers are long,

choose the path that's right for you

Traditional Career Path

JUNIOR

INTERMEDIATE

SENIOR

MANAGER

Dual Career Paths

What is Staff Engineering?

4 Staff Engineer Archetypes

Will Larson - Staff Engineer
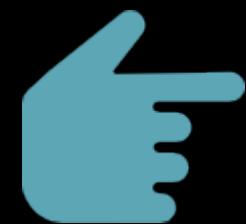
TECH LEAD

ARCHITECT

SOLVER

RIGHT HAND

How is it different to being a Senior Engineer?

You're a role model now,

sorry!

My "Moment"

Backend team

Annie **Luxton**
.NET Developer

The early bird might get the worm,
but the second mouse gets the cheese.

How is it different to being an Engineering Manager?

It's still a leadership role,

just more technical

The Engineer/Manager Pendulum

Charity Majors - charity.wtf

It's not a one-way street,

embrace the swing

What do Staff Engineers do?

3 Pillars of Staff Engineering

Tanya Reilly - The Staff Engineer's Path

BIG PICTURE THINKING

PROJECT EXECUTION

LEVELLING UP OTHERS

Choose a path that gives you energy

Questions?

Reach out:

- LinkedIn - www.linkedin.com/in/annievella

- X/Twitter - @codefrenzy