Propositions accompanying the thesis:

Breaking & Entering

PAH photodissociation and top-down chemistry

i) Interstellar fullerenes are products of PAH photodissociation.
— Chapters 2 & 3

ii) The age of photodissociation regions appears to play a key role in fullerene formation.
— Chapter 2

iii) Hydrogen roaming and the formation of aliphatic-like side groups are critical in the dehydrogenation process of PAHs.
— Chapter 4

iv) It is possible to efficiently form molecular hydrogen through PAH photodestruction.
— Chapters 4 & 5

v) Isomerization reactions must be taken into account in astrochemical models of PAH evolution.

vi) Perfectly shaped, unmodified PAHs are, likely, less prominent members of the interstellar PAH family.

vii) Multidisciplinary research must be carried out with proper and respectful consideration to all its parts.

viii) Exclusively focusing on positive results is detrimental to science.

ix) Becoming famous as a scientist should, if it ever happens, be a consequence of the work, never a preconceived goal.

x) Failure and frustration are excellent teachers.

xi) Initiatives aimed towards greater diversity in science and other areas are needed not only at top levels, but also at the very first steps.

xii) Vices help in getting through a PhD.

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