



Research Methods

Applying for a Tenure-Track Faculty Position

Slide 1

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Lecture Outline

- The Professor Career Path
- Typical Application Package

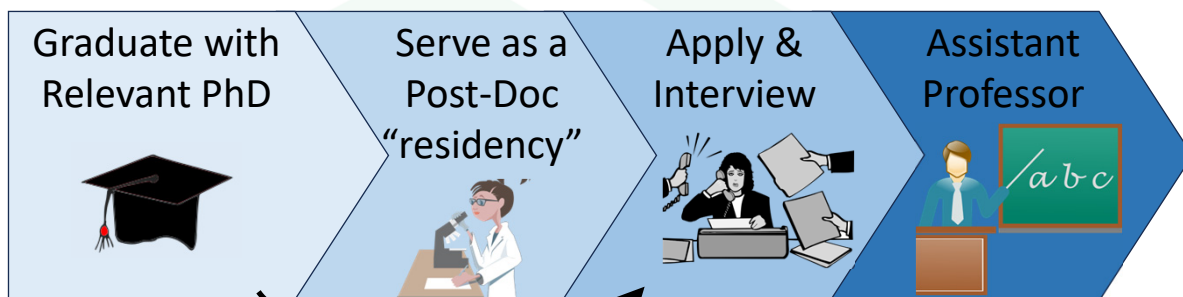
Slide 2

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The Professor Career Path

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Typical Career Path



It is becoming more common to skip the post-doc step.

Not recommended. Without the proper experience, these faculty struggle and are often not successful.

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What are Tenure-Track Professors Expected to Do?

<u>Time</u>	<u>Work Type</u>
50%	Research
40%	Teaching
10%	Service

Research

- Develop and pursue ideas.
- Write proposals and win external funding.
- Recruit, mentor, and graduate students.
- Publish and disseminate
- Establish partnerships and collaborations
- Patent, license and commercialize

Teaching

- Develop new courses
- Teach catalog courses
- Have office hours
- Participate in ABET activities
- Incorporate technology into the classroom
- Experiment with modern teaching methods

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Service

- Serve on committees
- Help department, college, and/or university
- Community philanthropy
- Perform peer reviews
- Serve as editor for a journal
- Organize conferences and symposiums
- Do outreach activities
- Help and mentor other faculty
- Other?

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Benefits and Drawbacks of Being a Professor

Benefits

- Intellectual freedom
- Flexible work schedule
- Able to more easily pursue high-risk research.
- Can do research and be entrepreneur at same time.
- Can collect royalties from patents.
- Get to help people build their careers.

Drawbacks

- Expected to do a lot of work (100 – age = hours/week)
- Must earn tenure in 6 years or you get fired.
- Highly distracting job
- ~40% lower pay than industry.
- Must secure external funding and devote those funds to cover your summer salary.

Typical Application Package

Cover Letter

- State purpose of the letter.
- Immediately establish a direct and personal connection to the university.
- Summarize the key points from your application package as the reasons they should hire you.
- Show you have researched the university by calling out specific faculty, research centers, local businesses/schools/etc.

Research Statement

- Briefly state your research experience, significant accomplishments, and recognitions.
- State how much external funding you have received, if any.
- Outline what you plan to do for research and how you plan to do it.
- What equipment, lab space, and number of students you will need.
- Call out specific faculty and Centers at the university you could collaborate with.
- Layout a clear funding plan. Identify specific funding agencies and programs.
- Describe experience and accomplishments at winning external funding.

Teaching Statement

- Briefly summarize your teaching experience and recognitions.
- State your overall teaching philosophy. How will you teach students at the university where you are applying.
- Identify courses you are qualified to teach and courses you would like to develop.
- State how you will incorporate your research into the classroom.
- State how you will make use of technology and modern teaching practices.

Diversity Statement

- Clearly show that you recognize and appreciate diversity.
- Diversity means ethnicity, gender, income, education level, nationality, religion, etc.
- State you will not discriminate and strive for diversity.
- Give any personal learning experiences you may have related to diversity.
- Avoid stories where you represent yourself as a victim.