

Career Mentoring Workshop

**Wheaton College
July 27 – 29, 2008**

**Workshop V: The Interviewing
and Decision Process**

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Types of Academic Jobs

- Research Postdoc
- Teaching Postdoc
- Visiting Assistant Professor (research or liberal arts)
- Tenure-track (research or liberal arts)

Methods of Interviewing

- Phone Interview
- ~~Joint Meetings Employment Center computer-scheduled~~
- Joint Meetings Employer Scheduled
- On-campus Interview

Research Postdoc

- Often no interview
- Often based solely on your advisor and field of research
- NSF support

Teaching Intensive Positions

- Often begins with phone interview
- Followed by meeting at Joint Meeting—usually employer scheduled
- On campus

Research Tenure-Track

- Typically not at Joint Meetings
- Maybe phone interview, definitely on campus

Phone Interviews



- Often preliminary, prior to Joint Meetings
- Challenge: Getting your enthusiasm and interest to travel across the phone line!
- Some schools will do in lieu of Joint Meetings

Employment Center Interviews

- Be sure to indicate in your cover letters that you will be attending the Joint Meetings (and mention when and where you will be giving a talk)
- Scheduled in December by employers themselves
- Often in hotel rooms or lobbies, 20 – 30 min
- Mostly liberal arts schools and teaching postdocs

The On-Campus Interview

- At this stage you should be very proud of yourself! Only three or four candidates are invited to campus!
- One or two full days
- Meet with all dept members, deans, presidents, other faculty in same college, dept staff, students

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- You will give a talk about your research, be sure to ask about the audience (faculty only? grad students? undergrads?)
 - If a liberal arts college, you will also give a talk for students or teach a class
 - This is your opportunity to decide if this is a good fit for you!

Decisions, Decisions!

- This is very personal! Talk to your advisor, family, close friends, mentors, former faculty...
- Perhaps prior to going on interviews, decide what is most important to you: location? dept size? types of courses? amount of research required? etc
- Be sure to negotiate for Project NExT support!