

Academic Job-Related Priorities

Source: UC Irvine Division of Career Pathways

Suggested Directions:

- 1) Review list and rank by importance: Essential, Important, Neutral.
- 2) Note which are positive influences or advantages and which are negative influences or deterrents.

Hint: Those with significant others may want to do this exercise independently, then compare notes and discuss.

A) Institutional Type

Public

Private:

religious

secular

not for profit

for profit

Ivy league

Associates College (Community college)

Doctoral Granting Universities

Masters Colleges and Universities

Baccalaureate Colleges

Special Focus Institutions

RESOURCE: <http://www.carnegiefoundation.org/classifications/sub.asp?key=783>,
for descriptions and listings of institutions Size:

Very large (30,000-55,000)

Large (15,000-30,000)

Medium (5,000-15,000)

Small (1,500-5,000)

Very small (500-1,500)

B) Position Type

Faculty

Research priority

Teaching priority

Administrator

Full-time

Part-time (is almost always non-tenure track)

Tenure track (usually Assistant Professor)

Non-tenure track (assistant professor, visiting professor, lecturer, adjunct faculty, sabbatical replacement, contract position, post doc etc.) Interdisciplinary, joint-appointment, etc.

C) Duties/Responsibilities

Research and publishing

Teaching load (undergraduate/graduate courses)

Service (department, university/college)

Advising, graduate (masters and/or PhD) and/or undergraduate

- Grant writing
- Managing a lab
- Other

D) Student Body

- Diversity: Geographical Origins, Socioeconomic (% receiving financial aid), Age, Ethnicity, Gender, Sexual Orientation, etc.
- Caliber of students
 - Undergraduate: high school class rank and/or GPA, SAT or ACT scores, percentage of applicants admitted, postgraduate career goals/outcomes, etc. -
 - Graduate: undergraduate GPA, GRE scores, undergraduate institutions, percentage of
- Residential
- Commuting

E) Location

- Certain part of US
- Other countries
- Urban, suburban, rural
- Job opportunities for partner and/or commuter relationship
- Quality of education for children (current or planned)

F) Special Characteristics of Institution or Department

- Women's college, historically black college, technical college, etc.
- Specific religious affiliation
- Specific disciplinary orientation (ex: communicative method for teaching foreign language)
- Innovative/experimental curriculum
- Age of Institution (UC Merced – 1 year vs. UC Irvine - 40 years vs. Harvard - 350+ years)
- Prestige, reputation, ranking of department and/or institution
- Probability of tenure
- Salary minimum (consider cost of living)
- Family leave policy and impact of having children on tenure clock
- Partner hire policy
- Benefits
- Sabbatical policy
- Funding for lab, computer, travel, research, library, etc.
- Availability of mentor
- Availability of certain facilities, resources, etc.
- Availability of local colleagues
- Collegiality of department/Dept. culture
- Types and variety of courses offered
- Other?

G) Other considerations

- Work-life balance
- Pressure from department to produce original research
- Other?