SO, YOU WANT TO BE A PROFESSOR?

“A professor is one who talks in someone else's sleep”

W. H. Auden

Tenure & Promotion
1. Teaching
2. Scholarly Activity
3. Service
1. Teaching

- 9 to 12 hours per week in classroom
- 9 month appointment (August through May)
- Extra opportunities for Summer teaching

“Lecture: a process by which the notes of the professor become the notes of the student, without passing through the minds of either”

Prep and Grading

- Lecture and laboratory sections
- 5 to 20+ hours per week
- Ex. 15 to 10 min per lab report, 40 to 60 students = 10 to 20 hours of grading lab reports!
Communication

- Letters of recommendation
- Former students
- Faculty interactions
- Department meetings
- Prospective students
- Inquiries from textbook companies, bookstore, etc.
- Book/teaching materials orders each semester

Other Teaching Activities

- Prepare & breakdown labs each week
- Maintain, update webpage materials
- Meeting with students (extra help, problems, absences, reviewing exams/quizzes, advice, etc.)
- Email communications
- Keeping up with change (lectures, textbooks, technologies, students with disabilities, etc.)
- “Extras”
  - Teaching supplements
  - Keep up with current events for classes

2. Service
Meetings, and more meetings!

- 1 to 5 hours per week
- Departmental
- University-wide
- College of Liberal Arts
- Lab coordinator
- Faculty searches
- IACUC, etc.

Committees

- University
  - Grade Appeals, CLAS Elections, IACUC, etc.
- Departmental
  - Chemical Hygiene
  - New faculty hires
  - Space and Use
  - Tenure & Promotion
  - Etc.

Advising and Registration

- 60+ current students, 30 min each, once per semester
- Registration periods during Summer (usually 4-5 times, even when you're not teaching summer classes)
- Transfer students, returning students, etc.
Community Service

• Host high school student visits, research, etc...
• Science fair judge
• Volunteer work
• Science consulting

3. Scholarly Activity

Writing and Publishing

• Research articles (timeframe > 1 year per manuscript)
• Teaching articles
• Letters to editor
• Textbooks (or chapters within)
• Lab Manuals
• Internal reports (for university and department)
Grant Proposals

• External funding
• Internal funding
• Consulting

Research

Student Supervision

• Undergraduate research projects
• Undergraduate internships
• Lab prep
• Honor’s Theses
• Faculty “sponsor” for fraternal and/or sorority groups
Presentations

• Science Symposium
• Local schools
• On-campus events
• National events

Conferences

• Presentations
• Talks
• Posters
• Travel arrangements
• Funding / support

Organizing and Hosting

• Seminars
• Tutorials
• Symposia
• Open Houses
• Recruit, schedule, host speakers
Extracurricular

- Open Houses
- Orientation
- New student move-in
- Alumni events
- Awards ceremonies
- Graduation ceremonies
- Faculty forum
- Social events (on and off campus)

Job Perks

- National holidays off
- Summers off !! (If desired)
- Job security (if Tenured)
- Flexible work hours (changes per semester)
- Mostly your own boss
- Can work in almost any state (depend. jobs available)
- Health coverage & retirement benefits
- Part of, and contributing to, the community