

What's It Like To Have a STEM Career in Different Types of Universities?

Wednesday, October 5, 1:10 – 2:20 p.m.

Hussey Room, Michigan League

Agenda

Overview of the program and resources available

Mary Wright, Asst. Director, Evaluation, CRLT, and Assoc. Research Scientist

Panel presentation

Chiron Graves, Assistant Professor, Department of Biology, Eastern Michigan University

Dr. Graves received his Ph.D. from the University of Michigan and his M.A. and B.S. from Xavier University of Louisiana. Prior to studying at U-M, he taught at Champaign Centennial High School from 2004-2005 and at Jefferson Middle School from 2002-2004, both in Illinois. At EMU, Dr. Graves teaches courses on Life Science for Elementary Teachers and Methods for Teaching Secondary Biology. In his research, he explores conceptual understandings of the “nature of science” (NOS) that are held by science teachers and how their views influence the extent to which they incorporate inquiry-based teaching practices into their classrooms. He is also interested in how teacher experiences in research laboratories impact their conceptual understandings of NOS.

Cyndee Gruden, Associate Professor, Department of Civil Engineering, University of Toledo

Dr. Gruden received her Ph.D. in Civil Engineering from the University of Colorado, and a M.S. and B.S. in Civil Engineering from the University of New Hampshire. Prior to coming to University of Toledo, she was a postdoctoral researcher in environmental water resources engineering at the University of Michigan. Her teaching includes courses on fluid mechanics, water supply and treatment, wastewater engineering, environmental research methods, and capstone design. Her current research interests include sediment remediation and restoration with an emphasis on *in situ* approaches as a viable alternative to dredging, as well as microbial sensing (i.e., quantification, physiological assessment, identification) in environmental systems. Dr. Gruden is Case Western Reserve University's NSF ADVANCE Grant, designed to foster gender equity in STEM faculty careers.

Bob Megginson, Arthur F. Thurnau Professor, Department of Mathematics, University of Michigan

Dr. Megginson received a B.S. in physics from the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, and he spent the next eight years as a computer systems software specialist for Roper Corporation, a manufacturer of home appliances and lawn care equipment based in Kankakee, Illinois. After returning to the University of Illinois for graduate work, he received his A.M. in statistics and a Ph.D. in mathematics. He then spent nine years on the mathematics faculty of Eastern Illinois University in Charleston before joining the University of Michigan faculty. From 2002-2004, he served as Deputy Director at the Mathematical Sciences Research Institute in Berkeley, California. Until last year, Dr. Megginson was Associate Dean for Undergraduate and Graduate Education for the College of Literature, Science, and the Arts at the University of Michigan. He has been very involved in the problems of minority mathematics education, especially that of Native Americans, and he is a Sequoyah Fellow of the American Indian Science and Engineering Society.

Q&A

**Online resources about STEM positions and job searches
are available at:**

<http://www.crlt.umich.edu/gsis/wil.php>

PAST "WHAT'S IT LIKE?" SEMINARS AND FACULTY PARTICIPANTS

Recordings of the panels and resources are available online:

http://www.crlt.umich.edu/gsis/wil_past.php

What's It Like to Work at a Liberal Arts College? – January 28, 2011

Panelists:

- Dr. Clayton Koppes Professor, Department of History, Oberlin College
- Dr. Manish Mehta, Department of Chemistry, Oberlin College
- Dr. Andy Mozina, Department of English, Kalamazoo College
- Dr. Afia Ofori-Mensa, OK-UM Postdoctoral Scholar in Comparative American Studies and African American Studies, Oberlin College

What's It Like to Be a Postdoctoral Researcher? - October 6, 2010

Panelists:

- Dr. Shanna Daly, Research Fellow, Design Science Program, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan; Research Fellow, College of Engineering, University of Michigan
- Dr. Ferman Chavez, Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry, Oakland University
- Dr. Peter Hitchcock, Director, Office of Postdoctoral Studies, University of Michigan Medical School; Professor of Ophthalmology and Visual Sciences and Professor of Cell and Developmental Biology, Medical School

What's It Like to Be a Non-Tenure-Track Faculty Member? - September 16, 2010

Panelists:

- Dr. Catherine Misener, Formerly Social Science Chair, Kaplan University
- Dr. Lori Kumler, Part time faculty, Geography Department and Geological and Environmental Sciences Department, Youngstown State University
- Dr. Linda Wiechowski, Chair, Finance and Economics, Walsh College
- Dr. Victor Okafor, Department Head, Department of African American Studies, Eastern Michigan University

What's It Like to Work at a Liberal Arts College? - January 28, 2010

Panelists:

- Dr. Grace An, Assistant Professor of French/Cinema Studies, Oberlin College
- Dr. Clayton Koppes, Professor, Department of History, Oberlin College
- Dr. Andrew Mozina, Associate Professor, Department of English, Kalamazoo College
- Dr. Amy Rodgers, Mellon postdoctoral fellow

What's It Like to Work at a Postsecondary Minority Institution? - February 12, 2010

Panelists:

- Dr. Bryant Marks, Assistant Professor, Department of Psychology, Morehouse College
- Dr. Phyllis Worthy Dawkins, Associate Provost Academic Affairs, Associate Vice President for Academic Committee, and Director of the Center for Teaching, Learning and Academic Technology, Dillard University, President, HBCU Faculty Development Network, President-Elect-Elect, Professional and Organizational Development (POD) Network
- Dr. Jim Silliman, Ph.D., Associate Professor, Department of Chemistry, Texas A&M University-Corpus Christi

What's It Like to Work at a Community College? - September 25, 2009

Panelists:

- Dr. Geri Jacobs, Professor, Department of Language, Literature and the Arts, Jackson Community College
- Dr. Roger Palay, Vice President for Instruction, Washtenaw Community College
- Andre Cavalcante, Ph.D. Candidate, Communication Studies (Previously, a full-time instructor at Suffolk County Community College and adjunct at Nassau Community College, New York)

What's It Like to Work Where There's a Teaching-Research Balance? - October 7, 2009

Panelists:

- Dr. Samhita Rhodes, Assistant Professor of Electrical Engineering, Grand Valley State University
- Dr. John Staudenmaier, Professor of History, The University of Detroit Mercy