# Academic Careers: What's Really Out There? 

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## Scope

# PhD-trained individuals* pursuing academic careers in post-secondary institutions in the U.S. in biomedical and/or STEM fields. 

*generally who earned the PhD in the U.S.
STEM = science, technology, engineering, \& math

## Game Plan

- History of post-secondary education in the U.S. (BRIEF)
- Carnegie Classification - types and numbers of U.S. institutions
- Academic career as a function of institution type
- Salaries
- Academic employment patterns for PhDs in the biomedical sciences


## Game Plan (cont'd)

- Interest in research-intensive academic positions may be waning
- PhDs Wanted!
- In the clinical departments of medical schools
- In dental schools
- In nursing schools


# A Brief History of Post-secondary Education in the U.S. 

- Earliest U.S. colleges (e.g., Harvard 1636, William and Mary, Yale)
- First academic departments (1820s)
- Graduate education imported from Germany: 1876, Johns Hopkins and the ACS
- AAUP Statement on Tenure: 1940


## Academics in the U.S. - History

- Post World War II investment in scientific research in universities
- GI Bill, baby boomers, and tremendous academic expansion
- Title IX of the Educational Amendments of 1972 prohibits sex discrimination in education
- 1994 amendment to the Age Discrimination in Employment Act abolishes mandatory retirement age for faculty


## Carnegie Classifications

- A taxonomy of U.S. colleges and universities
- Developed by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching in 1970 and revised multiple times since


## 1994 Classification

- Research universities I and II
- Doctoral universities I and II
- Masters (Comprehensive) college/universities I and II
- Baccalaureate (Liberal Arts) colleges I and II
- Associate of Arts Colleges
- Specialized institutions
- Tribal college and universities


# Evolution of the Carnegie Classifications 

- Research I University (1994)
- Doctoral/Research University - Extensive (2000)
- Research University (very high research activity) (2006)


## Top Doctorate Granting Institutions: Life Sciences 2007

- Harvard 218
- U. Wisconsin 211
- Johns Hopkins 205
- U. Florida 204
- U. Minnesota 201
- UC, Davis 190
- UC, Berkeley 186
- U. Washington 183
- Ohio State 170
- UCLA 168
- UNC, Chapel Hill

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- Cornell 143
- U. Michigan 141
- Penn State 138
- Boston U. 124
- Texas A\&M 122
- U. Arizona 117


## Institutions Receiving the Largest Amount of Federal Funding: 2007

- Johns Hopkins
- U. Washington
- U. Michigan (all campuses)
- U. Pennsylvania
- UCLA
- Duke
- UC, San Diego
- UC, San Francisco
- Harvard
- U. Pittsburgh (all campuses)
- Columbia U.
- Stanford
- Wash. U St. Louis
- Yale
- MIT
- U. Minn. (all campuses)
- U. Wisconsin
- Penn State (all campuses)


## Institution Number

## Institution Type

2-year colleges
Baccalaureate colleges
Master's institutions
Research institutions
Medical schools/centers
Total

## Number of

Institutions
1814
767
664
282
57
4391

## Institution Number and Enrollment

## Institution Type

Percent of
Institutions

2-year colleges
Baccalaureate colleges
Master's institutions
Research institutions
Medical schools/centers
Other

| $41.3 \%$ | $38.9 \%$ |
| ---: | ---: |
| $6.4 \%$ | $7.9 \%$ |
| $15.7 \%$ | $22.2 \%$ |
| $6.4 \%$ | $27.9 \%$ |
| $1.3 \%$ | $0.5 \%$ |
| $18.4 \%$ | $3.3 \%$ |

## Research

Reviewing grants, manuscripts

Getting grants and publishing

Attending professional meetings

Supervising postdocs, graduate students

## Teaching

Advising students
Holding office hours

## Service

Advising student organizations/clubs

Experiential learning
Community outreach
Living/dining in residence halls

Committee work
Faculty governance
Recruiting
Agricultural extension services

## Average Salaries (9-month)

## Institution Type

## Full Associate Assistant

 Professor (\$ $\times 10^{-3}$ )2-year colleges
Baccalaureate colleges
Master's institutions
Research institutions
Medical schools/centers* 113

7258
64
69
80
76

51
53
58
68
60

Chronicle for Higher Education April 18, 2008
*Report of Medical School Faculty Salaries, AAMC, January 2008


Burton, SA, and Mallon, WT, Acad. Med. 82: 281 (2007)

Distribution of Biomedical Science PhDs by Sector of Employment


Source: http://sestat.nsf.gov/

Employment of Biomedical Science PhDs by Sector of Employment


Source: http://sestat.nsf.gov/

# How Many Academic Jobs Are There? 

Total Full-time Faculty (2003)<br>630,092<br>Total Science/Eng/Health (2006)<br>233,800<br>Total Biomedical (2006) 58,800<br>Total PhDs in Med, Dent, Vet Schools (2008)

Jobs resulting from retirement 1500-2300

Doctorate Degrees Awarded in the Biological and Medical Sciences by Sex


## How Many PhDs Are Being Awarded?

Total PhDs (2007)
42,637
Total Science/Eng/Health (2007)
28,774
Total Biomedical (2006)
7,500

## Academically Employed Biomedical PhDs

 by Tenure Status

Source: http://sestat.nsf.gov/

Distribution of Academically Employed
Biomedical PhDs by Tenure Status


Percent of US Biomedical Science PhDs Holding
Tenure or Tenure-Track Positions, Total


## Trends in Faculty Status NOTE: all faculty



On the Brink, AAUP, 2008-09

# Does this really describe the academic work world? 

Mervis, J. "And Then There Was One," Science 321: 1622 - 1628 (2008)

The Yale Molecular Biophysics and Biochemistry graduate program
-30 entering students in 1991
-26 earned PhDs in 1997 or 1998

## Where Are They Now?

Academia (8)

- Tenured: 1
- Tenure-track: 1
- Other: 6

Biotechnology Industry (11)
Other (4)

- Patent law
- IT Industry: 2
- Entrepreneur

UC Doctoral Students: As you think about your future career plans, how concerned are you about the family friendliness of possible career paths?

## Women



Men


As you think about possible future career paths and family issues, how family friendly do you imagine each of the following job types to be? UC Doctoral Students by Gender

| Percent Imagining Job Type to Be Very or Somewhat Family Friendly* |  |  |  |  |
| :---: | :--- | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Rank | Job Types | Total | Men | Women |
| 1 | Tenure-track faculty careers at teaching-intensive <br> colleges | $77 \%$ | $82 \%$ | $73 \%$ |
| 2 | Policy or managerial careers inside academia | $76 \%$ | $80 \%$ | $73 \%$ |
| 3 | Research careers outside academia | $75 \%$ | $78 \%$ | $72 \%$ |
| 4 | Policy or managerial careers outside academia | $72 \%$ | $74 \%$ | $71 \%$ |
| 5 | Non-tenure-track faculty careers | $63 \%$ | $62 \%$ | $64 \%$ |
| 6 | Research careers at research-intensive <br> universities | $47 \%$ | $55 \%$ | $40 \%$ |
| 7 | Tenure-track faculty careers at research-intensive <br> universities | $37 \%$ | $46 \%$ | $29 \%$ |

*vs. not too or not at all family friendly.

[^0]

## PhDs Wanted!

## In the clinical departments of medical schools

Rosenberg, L.E. (1999) Science 283: 331. Physician-ScientistsEndangered and Essential.
Gray, M.L., and Bonventre, J.V. (2002) Nature Medicine 8: 433.
Training PhD Researchers to Translate Science to Clinical Medicine.


Medical School Faculty Members by
Degree and Department Type


Table 1 Career choices by HST-MEMP biomedical engineering graduates compared with biosciences PhD and MD-PhD students

| Model type: | In-depth experience |  | Targeted exposure |  | Combined degree | "Typical" PHD |
| :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: | :---: |
| Cohort description Data source | PhD (engineering) with in-depth clinical experience <br> HST-MEMP Alumn (1984-2001) |  | PhD (bioscience) with one-semester exposure to pathobiology <br> Tufts Alumnl * (1984-1998) |  | PhD (mostly bioscience) with full MD training | PhD (mostly bioscience) matched to MSTP cohort <br> STP study ** (1-1990) |
|  | \# | \% | \# | \% | \% | \% |
| Basic science/engineering department | 36 | 39 | 27 | 30 | 19 | 53 |
| Clinicaldepartment | 26 | 28 | 23 | 25 | 43 | 8 |
| Both | - | - | - | - | 20 | 5 |
| Total academic positions | 62 | 67 | 50 | 55 | 83 | 65 |
| Industry/consulting | 24 | 26 | 38 | 42 | 6 | 30 |
| Other | 7 | 8 | 3 | 3 | 11 | 5 |
| Total | 93 | 100 | 91 | 100 | 100 | 100 |

Gray, M.L., and Bonventre, J.V. (2002) Nature Medicine 8: 433. Training PhD Researchers to Translate Science to Clinical Medicine.

## PhDs Wanted?

## In dental schools

Herzberg, M.C. et al. (2006) J. Dent. Res. 85: 486. Driving the Future of Dental Research.

| Rank | Institution | FY 2008 Amount |
| :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1 | UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA SAN FRANCISCO | $9,428,862$ |
| 2 | UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN AT ANN ARBOR | $8,716,685$ |
| 3 | UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON | $8,238,451$ |
| 4 | UNIVERSITY OF FLORIDA | $8,146,663$ |
| 5 | UNIVERSITY OF ROCHESTER | $8,125,340$ |
| 6 | BOSTON UNIVERSITY MEDICAL CAMPUS | $7,400,912$ |
| 7 | UNIVERSITY OF NORTH CAROLINA CHAPEL HILL | $7,183,465$ |
| 8 | UNIVERSITY OF ALABAMA AT BIRMINGHAM | $6,395,388$ |
| 9 | NEW YORK UNIVERSITY | $6,303,728$ |
| 10 | FORSYTH INSTITUTE | $5,736,652$ |
| 11 | UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA LOS ANGELES | $5,730,992$ |
| 12 | UNIVERSITY OF LOUISVILLE | $4,522,390$ |
| 13 | UNIVERSITY OF PITTSBURGH AT PITTSBURGH | $3,795,400$ |
| 14 | UNIVERSITY OF IOWA | $3,468,766$ |
| 15 | UNIVERSITY OF MARYLAND BALTIMORE | $3,464,509$ |
| 16 | UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA | $3,264,192$ |
| 17 | UNIVERSITY OF TEXAS HLTH SCI CTR SAN ANT | $2,989,041$ |
| 18 | UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA TWIN CITIES | $2,936,004$ |
| 19 | UNIVERSITY OF COLORADO DENVER | $2,782,438$ |
| 20 | UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO | $2,731,403$ |

## PhDs Wanted?

## In nursing schools

"Nursing Research" Chapter 6 in Advancing the Nation's Health Needs (2005)

American Association of Colleges of Nursing
Nursing Faculty Shortage Fact Sheet, 3/10/09

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Doctorate Degrees Awarded in the Biological and Medical Sciences by Sex


## Women S\&E Faculty



Thirty-Three Years of Women in S\&E Faculty Positions, NSF InfoBrief, July, 2008

## FIGURE 6

Ratio of Men to Womes at Professor Rank,
by Institutional Category, 1995-96 to 2008-09


On the Brink, AAUP 2008-09

## Women's Academic Salaries as a Percent of Men's

NOTE: these data summarize 2005-06 results for all disciplines and all institutions (doctoral institutions)

All ranks
Full Professors
Associate/Assistant Professors 93\%
Associate Professors
81\% (78\%)

88\% (91\%)

Assistant Professors
(93\%)
(92\%)


## Changing Faculty Profile

1969

- White male Protestant
- Native-born
- Research university
- Full-time
- Tenured/tenure-track
- Liberal arts/sciences

Contemporary

- Increasingly diverse
- 2- or 4-year public university
- Part-time
- Non-tenure-track
- Professions


## Survey of Earned Doctorates

- Conducted by the NSF every year
- Seeks data from every individual who
- received his/her first research doctorate
- from an accredited U.S. institution
- during the calendar year from July 1 to June 30.


## Survey of Doctoral Recipients

- Conducted by the NSF every two years
- Samples individuals who
- received a research doctorate from a U.S. university in a science, engineering, or health discipline,
- are not institutionalized, and
- are under age 76

abstract, analytical knowing

Gene Rice, American Association of Colleges and Universities


Percent of US Biomedical Science PhDs Holding
Tenure or Tenure-Track Positions 5-6 Years Post-PhD



[^0]:    Yellow shading indicates the group's response is significantly higher than the other group's response ( $\mathrm{P}<.001$ ).

