

## Preparing for the Academic Skype Interview

### Tips:

1. Find out who's on the search committee. Know generally what they do and what they look like so you can recognize them on Skype.
2. Be positive and friendly. Remember to smile. It's nice for your questions to have a positive slant. They want to find out if you will be a good colleague, so show interest and enthusiasm for their department.
3. Demonstrate that you've done your homework on the department members, outside colleagues, resources, and facilities that are unique to the university by citing specifics during your interview.
4. Remember to look at the camera, not just your screen.
5. Afterwards, send brief thank you emails to each person that participated in the Skype interview.

### **Here is a list of potential questions I collected from people that had been on search committees, from people who went on Skype interviews, or from my own Skype interviews:**

What's the most important/innovative piece of work you've done? Tell us about your most significant finding and how it fits into the field.

How will your research address key questions in your field/what are the most important questions your work will address? How you will distinguish yourself from others in your field?

What are your 3,5,10-year plans? / What's the first experiment you will do/first priority be? / What do you hope to accomplish in your first 5 years as an investigator?

How will your research benefit from being done at University X? / What interests you about this position? / Who would you collaborate with?

How will you differentiate yourself from your mentor?

What's the biggest challenge you faced in the lab?

How did you get where you are today?

What will you teach?

What do you need to start your lab?

What skills will people who join your lab need?

Any questions for us?