### On Academic Careers

#### April 29, 2011 Shugao Ma, Haohan Zhu, Danna <u>Gurari</u>



### **Future Career Paths**

- Who wants a career in academia?
- Who wants a career in industry?
- What other type of career interests?



4/29/2011

### Academic Career

Pros?



# Academic Career

#### Pros

- More holidays
- Freedom
- Fun
- Job security (if tenured)
- Social Recognition
- Get to travel
- ...



4/29/2011

### Academic Career

Cons?



## **Academic Career**

#### Cons

- Lots of multi-tasking (aka interruptions)
- Pressure before tenure
- No end to a work day; always more to do
- Publish or perish
- Constant need to find funding
- Possible requirement to teach courses not in your area

• ...



## **Responsibilities in Academia**

- What are the responsibilities required?
  - Teach courses
  - Supervise students
  - Serve on institutional/research committees
  - Find funding
  - Perform research
  - Publish, publish, publish!



# How to get an Academic Job?

Graduation day has come... what is next?



# How to get an Academic Job?

#### Parts of an application

- Letter of transmittal (Cover Letter)
- Curriculum Vitae (CV)
- Transcripts
- Reference Letters
- Interview



• What to consider in an offer?



#### What to consider in an offer?

- Institution Reputation
- Salary and Benefits
- Lab space, supplies, equipment
- Office space
- Collaboration Opportunities
- Funding for students
- Teaching Requirements
- Administrative Requirements
- Quality of Students
- Geography



What can be negotiated in an offer?



- What can be negotiated in an offer?
  - Salary
  - Moving Expenses
  - Housing
  - Insurance (health, dental, vision, life)
  - Lab space, supplies, equipment
  - Office space
  - Funding for students
  - Family-related benefits: daycare, college tuition support, etc.
  - Teaching Requirements
  - Administrative Requirements
  - Departmental Grants
  - Summer Funding
  - Tenure



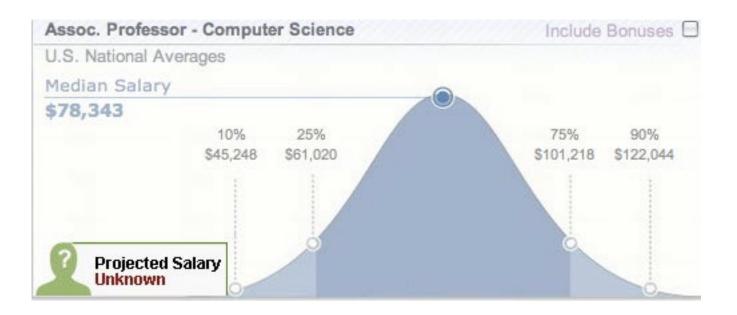
# What salary to Expect

What salary should an associate professor expect?



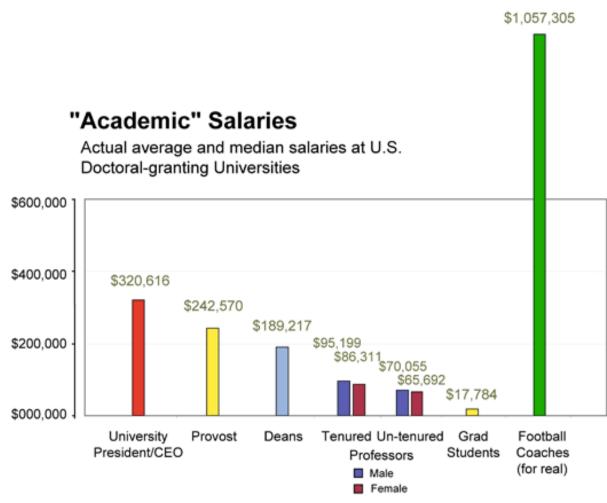
# What salary to Expect

#### From Salary.com





## Questions?



Notes: Administrator figures are medians salaries, the rest are averages. All figures in 2008 dollars. Sources: College and University Professional Association for Human Resources 2005 Survey; American Association of University Professors 2007 Survey; The Chronicle of Higher Education 2001 Survey of Graduate Assistants; USA Today Survey of Div. I-A College Football Coaches Compensation 2007.

WWW. PHDCOMICS. COM

16