

## Questions you can ask on your interviews (from Tracy Osborn)

### A) Teaching

- 1) Is there a lot of interdisciplinary teaching? Esp. with women's studies and/or psychology?
- 2) Three/four courses per semester – usually three separate preps or two sections of the same course and one other class?
- 3) How do class offerings rotate – i.e., how often are certain classes offered, and what would a typical semester consist of (a section of intro and...?)
- 4) Which classes to be taught are priorities? Which are important to see on the schedule that are not offered now?
- 5) How often would I have the chance to create my own classes in freshmen and/or senior seminars?
- 6) Class size?
- 7) Kinds of students? What are the backgrounds of students when they enter the university? How many new majors start each year and finish the poli sci program?
- 8) Internships for students? State legislative internships and/or research with faculty members?
- 9) Classroom styles – what kinds of texts are used, how much group work and discussion vs. lecture style, teaching environment generally?
- 10) Is there university support for teaching initiatives (e.g. grants for developing new seminars)?
- 11) What are the advising duties to political science students?
- 12) What do most students do upon graduating from the college – law school, grad school, political jobs, etc?
- 13) Interaction between students and faculty generally? Is it positive? How much do faculty participate in campus life apart from student academics?
- 14) Student curriculum requirements – diversity classes, writing programs (i.e., do they have to write a certain amount in classes), commitment to liberal arts-style education?

### B) Research

- 1) What kind of university support exists for faculty research?
- 2) Are there semesters with lesser loads for research – how does that work?
- 3) Do students participate in the research process with faculty?
- 4) Do faculty collaborate on research projects?
- 5) Are there research connections with any research centers or other universities in the area?

### C) Faculty Life/Department

- 1) What are the requirements for tenure? Do most people get tenure and stay at the university?
- 2) Has your experience as a women/young faculty member been positive – why or why not? (ask of appropriate person, of course).
- 3) How much does this department interact with others on campus? How does the university treat this department?
- 4) What are faculty administration requirements (faculty meetings, committees, etc.)?
- 5) What are the major goals for the department in the next 5/10 years? Hiring, teaching, etc.?
- 6) Social life of department – fun people outside of work?
- 7) What are benefits like for faculty members? People generally happy with being at the university?

D) Life in the town/state.

- 1) Good place to live? Where do they live, do they like it, cost of living, experience when they first moved here?
- 2) University's connection to the community?