# UNIVERSITY of DELAWARE



# Faculty Recruitment - Best Practices: Searching for Excellence

Today's Presenters:

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www.udel.edu/advance



### **Search Committees**

Arguably the most important task we are assigned!

#### What is the search committees goal?

Hire the best person to fit the needs of your department/ College and UD, someone who will excel and stay at UD.

- Hiring is a major investment in time and money
- Loss of faculty disrupts the department and negatively impacts morale

### Search Committees

Your task is very important, but it's not easy to do well.

- NSF knows it (e.g., ADVANCE)
- Our peer universities know it (e.g., UW, UMich)

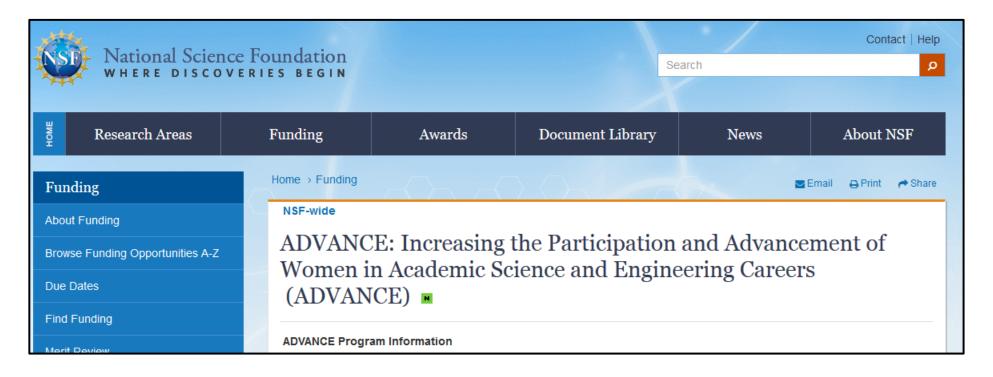


http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=nLjFTHTgEVU

- Major companies know it (e.g., Google, Facebook)
- We know it



## **NSF ADVANCE**









# Today's Plan

- Walk through UD's faculty search process
- Identify common key pitfalls
- Learn research tested methods that will help you achieve your goal of hiring the "best" person for the job.

Help ensure we hire the best faculty we possibly can ...excellent scholars, teachers, leaders

# Workshop Agenda

- A. Faculty recruitment protocol from the provost office
- B. Relationship between excellence and diversity
- C. Search Process, Stage 1 committee practices & building a candidate pool
- D. Search Process, Stage 2 practices for fair and effective evaluation of candidates
- E. Search Process, Stage 3 interviews, choosing a finalist, and closing the deal
- F. Wrap up

# A. Faculty Recruitment Protocol: Provost's Office

"In order to recruit the most qualified and diverse pool of candidates we are instituting a few changes to the recruitment process"

- 1. Attend a search committee workshop
- 2. Each search should begin with a meeting between the dean (or designee) and the search committee
  - a. Review advertisement and steps to recruit a diverse pool
  - b. Utilize IPEDs database
- 3. Submit Request to Recruit Web form
  - Explain affirmative steps the search committee intends to take in order to build a diverse and highly qualified candidate pool
  - b. Develop a rating sheet/rubric to evaluate candidates, with criteria derived from the key elements of the job ad

# A. Faculty Recruitment Protocol: Provost's Office

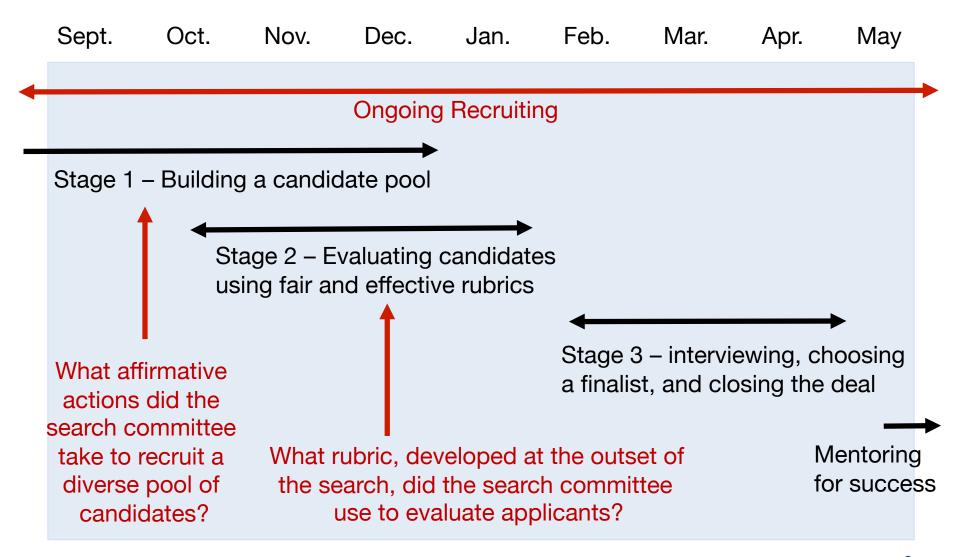
#### ... CONTINUED

- 4. Evaluate applicant pool and conduct interviews
  - a. After selecting the finalist pool, either by interviewing semi-finalists or by the committee's application review process, submit the **Applicant Pool Web form** with the following information: (1) What instrument/process did the committee use to evaluate applicants? (2) What affirmative steps did the committee take to create a diverse and highly qualified applicant pool? (3) If the committee interviewed semi-finalists, provide the list of names and a brief rationale for the decision

#### Submit Offer Status Web form

 Submit draft offer letter and for each candidate interviewed, provide a rationale/justification about whether the person would be suitable for the job

# Search Timeline



# B. Relationship between excellence and diversity

True excellence requires diversity

# Some types of diversity?

#### Intellectual

- Expertise
- Disciplines
- Schools

#### **Social**

- Gender
- Age
- Race
- Religion
- Ethnicity
- Political orientation
- Sexual orientation
- Marital status
- Physical ability

# Why is diversity so important?

- The right thing to do?
- The smart thing to do?
- Increases competitive advantage
- Increases creativity, innovation, new ideas
- Allows us to better serve a diverse student body and better address issues of a diverse society
- Leads to a larger and richer pool of talent to draw from
- Opportunity to distinguish UD

How diverse is the College of Engineering?

Hiring in your departments, last ten years

# UNIVERSITY of DELAWARE

Table 1. % Female for the COE as a whole, for T/TT only, over 10 years (2007-2016)

					Υe	ear				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
		Percentage female, all ranks								
University of Delaware	14%	14%	12%	15%	18%	17%	16%	17%	20%	18%
Average of all schools	12%	13%	13%	14%	14%	14%	14%	15%	15%	16%
Average of comparators	13%	13%	13%	14%	14%	15%	16%	15%	17%	16%
75th percentile among all schools	15%	15%	16%	17%	17%	17%	18%	19%	19%	19%
25th percentile among all schools	9%	9%	9%	9%	10%	9%	10%	10%	11%	12%
UD's percentile among all schools, in terms of %FF	73th	65th	48th	68th	76th	78th	67th	67th	81th	73th

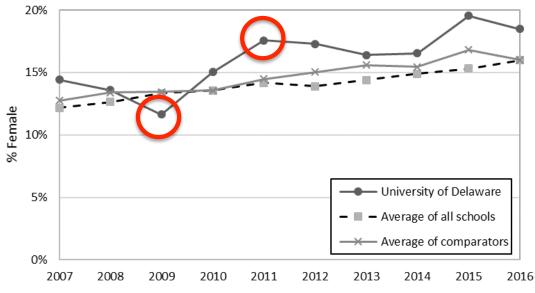


Figure 1. Percentage of female faculty in the College, 2007-2016

Table 2. % Female by department and for COE as a whole, for T/TT only, for 2016

		Department						
	BIOM	CHEG	CIEG	CISC	ELEG	MEEG	MSEG	COE
			Perce	ntage fe	male, all	ranks		
University of Delaware	43%	14%	20%	26%	16%	10%	15%	18%
Average of all schools	24%	19%	18%	19%	13%	12%	17%	16%
Average of comparators	19%	17%	21%	17%	12%	14%	17%	16%
75th percentile among all schools	30%	25%	25%	24%	18%	17%	23%	19%
25th percentile among all schools	15%	11%	13%	12%	6%	5%	11%	12%
_								
UD's percentile among all schools, in	01et	38th	51th	81th	69th	41th	49th	73th
terms of %FF	91st	Sotti	SILII	91th	69111	41th	49th	/501
Num. comparators	22	20	23	12	24	23	19	25
Total num. T/TT faculty at UD	7	21	20	19	19	20	13	119
Num. needed to get UD to 75th percentile		2.3	1.0		0.4	1.4	1.0	0.6

<sup>\*</sup> BIOM=Biomedical; CHEG=Chemical & Biomolecular; CIEG=Civil & Environmental; CISC=Computer & Information Sciences; ELEG=Electrical & Computer; MEEG=Mechanical; MSEG=Materials Science

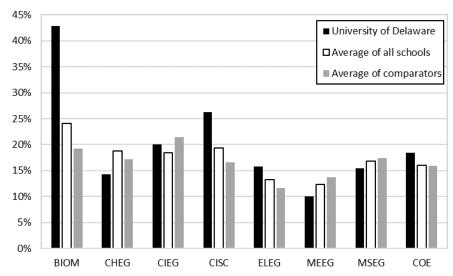


Figure 2. Percentage of female faculty by department and for the College as a whole (2016)

# UNIVERSITY of DELAWARE

Table 3. % URG for the COE as a whole, for T/TT only, over 10 years (2007-2016)

		Year								
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016
		Percentage URG, all ranks								
University of Delaware	7%	7%	8%	6%	5%	5%	6%	6%	9%	7%
Average of all schools	12%	13%	14%	7%	8%	8%	8%	7%	8%	7%
Average of comparators	7%	7%	7%	5%	6%	5%	5%	5%	5%	5%
75th percentile among all schools	12%	13%	13%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%	8%
25th percentile among all schools	3%	3%	3%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	3%
UD's percentile among all schools, in terms of %URG	56th	55th	57th	64th	56th	56th	63th	57th	78th	66th

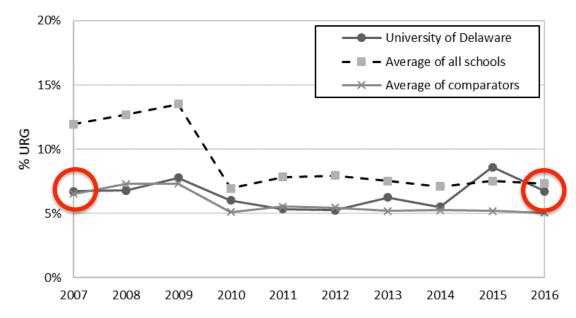


Figure 3. Percentage of URG faculty in the College, 2007-2016

Table 4. % URG by department and for COE as a whole, for T/TT only, for 2016

		Department						
	BIOM	CHEG	CIEG	CISC	ELEG	MEEG	MSEG	COE
			Perd	entage (	JRG, all r	anks		
University of Delaware	0%	10%	10%	5%	11%	0%	8%	7%
Average of all schools	6%	10%	8%	6%	6%	7%	7%	7%
Average of comparators	6%	6%	5%	3%	5%	5%	5%	5%
75th percentile among all schools	9%	14%	12%	7%	7%	9%	9%	8%
25th percentile among all schools	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	3%
UD's percentile among all schools, in	Oth	64th	65th	66th	84th	Oth	68th	66th
terms of %URG	oth	04(1)	อวเท	ootn	04lf1	oth	DOLII	ootn
Num. comparators	22	20	23	12	24	23	19	25
Total num. T/TT faculty at UD	7	21	20	19	19	20	13	119
Num. needed to get UD to 75th percentile	0.6	1.0	0.5	0.3		1.8	0.2	1.4

<sup>\*</sup> BIOM=Biomedical; CHEG=Chemical & Biomolecular; CIEG=Civil & Environmental; CISC=Computer & Information Sciences; ELEG=Electrical & Computer; MEEG=Mechanical; MSEG=Materials Science

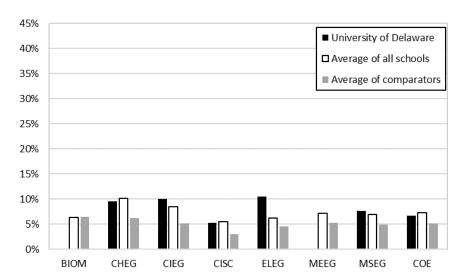


Figure 4. Percentage of URG faculty by department and for the College as a whole (2016)

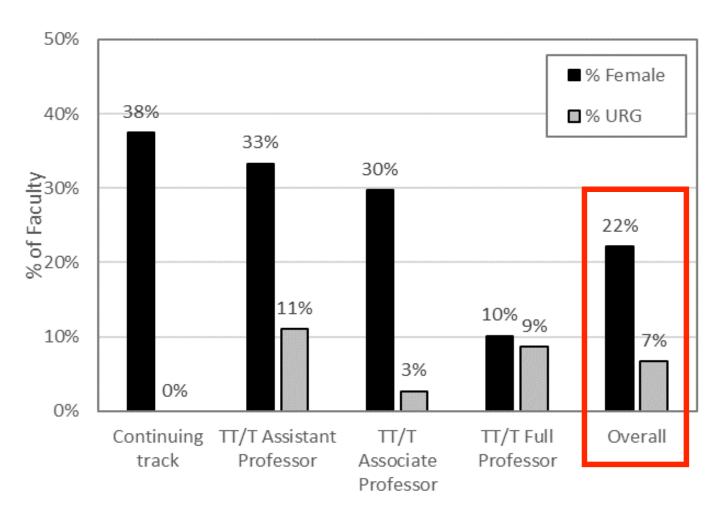


Figure 5. Percentage of faculty in COE who are female and percentage of faculty who are URG by type (CT vs. T/TT) and rank, as of June 2017

Table 5. Percentage of faculty who are female/URG among all faculty, tenured only, and full professors only, by department, as of June 2017

Department	BIOM	CHEG	CIEG	CISC	ELEG	MEEG	MSEG	COE
				All fa	culty			
Total num.	11	26	26	24	22	24	16	149
% Female	45%	15%	19%	29%	18%	21%	19%	22%
% URG	9%	12%	8%	4%	9%	0%	6%	7%
Num. FF needed to get UD to 30%		3.8	2.8	0.2	2.6	2.2	1.8	11.7
Num. URGs needed to UD to 15%	0.7	0.9	1.9	2.6	1.3	3.6	1.4	12.4
	Tenured faculty only							
Total num.	2	20	19	18	17	18	12	106
% Female	50%	10%	21%	28%	12%	11%	17%	17%
% URG	0%	15%	5%	6%	12%	0%	0%	7%
			F	ull profe	ssors on	У		
Total num.	1	17	14	9	11	8	9	69
% Female	100%	0%	14%	33%	0%	0%	11%	10%
% URG	0%	18%	7%	0%	18%	0%	0%	9%

<sup>\*</sup> BIOM=Biomedical; CHEG=Chemical & Biomolecular; CIEG=Civil & Environmental; CISC=Computer & Information Sciences; ELEG=Electrical & Computer; MEEG=Mechanical; MSEG=Materials Science

## 2007-2016 (64 Hires, 52 T/TT, 12 CT)

#, (%) Female	#, (%) Female	#, (%) Female
Total	T/TT	CT
23 (36%)	17 (33%)	6 (50%)

#, (%) URG	#, (%) URG	#, (%) URG
Total	T/TT	CT
3 (5%)	3 (6%)	0 (0%)

## 2016/17 (11 Hires, 8 T/TT, 3 CT)

#, (%) Female	#, (%) Female	#, (%) Female
Total	T/TT	CT
5 (45%)	2 (25%)	3 (100%)

#, (%) URG	#, (%) URG	#, (%) URG
Total	T/TT	CT
2 (18%)	2 (25%)	0 (0%)

# College of Engineering: Faculty Diversity Strategic Plan – Goals DRAFT

Area	Timeline	Measure
Numbers, relative to others	Ultimate	Top quartile %F, %URG (COE and Depts)
Numbers, relative to others	5-year	Top quartile %F, %URG (COE and Depts)
Numbers, absolute *	Ultimate	30% F, 15% URG
Numbers, absolute	5-year	25% F, 10% URG
	Ultimate	None in TT/CT, distribution across ranks, retention rates
Disparities (racial, gender)	5-year	None in retention rates. Continuous improvement towards none in TT/CT, distribution across ranks.
Climate	Ultimate	Inclusive, supportive

<sup>\*</sup> Will reach goals if we hire F faculty at a rate of 1 in 3 and URG faulty at a rate of 1 in 6

How can we improve our diversity?

One way is through faculty hiring!

2016/17 (11 Hires) 2017/18 (18 Searches) approximately 20% of the college will be new

## C. Search Process Stage 1:

Committee Practices & Building a Candidate Pool

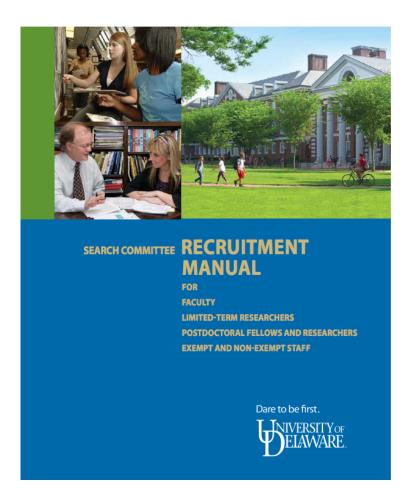


## Search Committee General Practices

- Include members of underrepresented groups on search committees.
- Make sure everyone gets a say (could include going around room to give everyone a chance to speak):
  - ✓ Plan meetings when all can attend
  - ✓ Have an agenda for each meeting, keep strict time limits.
  - ✓ Have members report out on action items from past meetings
- Take careful minutes keep a record of decisions.
- Start the search process early



#### Search Timeline



www1.udel.edu/udjobs/resources/Search %20Chair's%20Toolkit.pdf

- Authorization for recruitment given by dean, vice president, or appropriate unit administrator and the executive vice president or provost.
- Request to Recruit Form completed.
- Search committee chair appointed.
- Search committee identified.
- Search procedure developed.

#### Develop criteria

- Affirmative action approval of job description, position announcement, and committee membership completed.
- Request to Recruit advertisement and search committee form completed.
- Announcement of position vacancy posted in professional journals, appropriate publications of minority and women's associations, and in vita banks, with NASULGC, colleges, and universities, etc.

  Recruit actively
- Applicant Information Form and a letter of acknowledgment is sent to all applicants.
- Search committee meets and reviews applications and develops a list of final candidates.
- List forwarded to dean, vice president, or appropriate unit administrator, and to the human resources recruitment office for approval via the Request to Recruit Applicant Pool Form.
- Interviews conducted.
- Finalist recommended, as appropriate, to department chair, dean, unit head, vice president or provost via the Request to Recruit Offer Status Form.
- Human resources recruitment office informs search chair that approval process has been completed via the Request to Recruit Offer Status Form.
- Search committee chair informs human resources recruitment office and, as appropriate, the department chair, dean, vice president, or unit head of the results of the offer to hire.
- Request to Recruit Offer Status Form completed.

# **Initial Steps**

- Committees formed
- Job descriptions written and approved
  - Include inclusive language in ad
  - Distribute widely to reach diverse applicants

#### Example

The University of Delaware is an Equal Opportunity Employer with diversity as one of its core values and, in that spirit, seeks a broad spectrum of candidates including women, people with disabilities, and members of historically underrepresented groups. The University of Delaware is the recipient of a National Science Foundation ADVANCE Institutional Transformation Grant focused on enhancing the climate for faculty.

# **Initial Steps**

#### **Develop criteria for evaluating applicants**

- Based on the Provost's new protocol, development of rubrics will occur before you turn in the request to recruit form and should be linked to the job description (i.e. the ad and the criteria being evaluated need to be compatible).
- All members need to agree upon desired characteristics and how to weigh them.
- If the candidates potential to improve diversity and inclusion is a criterion, for example, there should be a plan to collect information from every candidate in a systematic way to evaluate that. This could involve asking each candidate the same question during skype interviews or asking for a statement as part of the application.
- These criteria will guide you for the rest of the search process.

# Next Step: Recruit applicants

#### Initial recruitment is crucial

If you don't have an excellent, diverse group of candidates in the initial pool, you'll be missing a lot of opportunities.

Nothing else you do during the search can make up for that.



# How do you recruit applicants?

The search guide: "Announcement of position vacancy posted in professional journals, appropriate publications of minority and women's associations, ... etc."

It's a start, but not enough to ensure that the best candidates apply.

Recruitment is a long-term, active process.

Active recruitment should occur continuously, and by all members of the faculty!

## **Table Exercise**

What can you do to ensure diverse pool of candidates?

#### Methods of Active Recruitment

- Invite qualified women and people of color to apply.
   This means more than forwarding the job announcement to them. Call them. Send them personal emails. Tell them why you think they apply (refer to their research, specific papers they've published, etc.).
- Consider hiring opportunities in areas beyond those defined by the search.

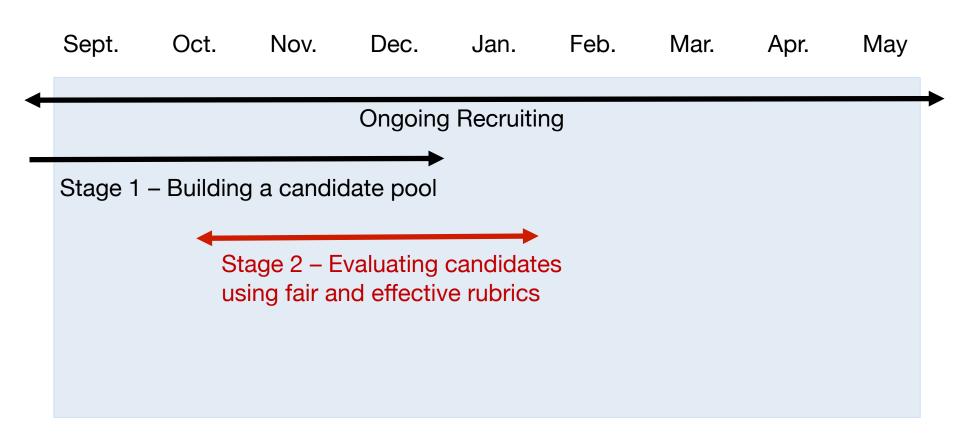
# The best candidates may not be looking for jobs yet.



- Contact colleagues at a broad range of institutions to identify potential candidates. Ask specifically about women and people of color. Get to know them – invite them to give a colloquium or seminar.
- Attend conferences with the goal of identifying and meeting potential candidates – follow up by inviting suitable candidates to apply.
- Use seminar visits to other institutions to ask about, and possibly meet, potential candidates, and report back to your department.

Active recruitment should occur continuously, and by all members of the faculty!

# **D. Search Process Stage 2:** Practices for Fair and Effective Evaluation of Candidates



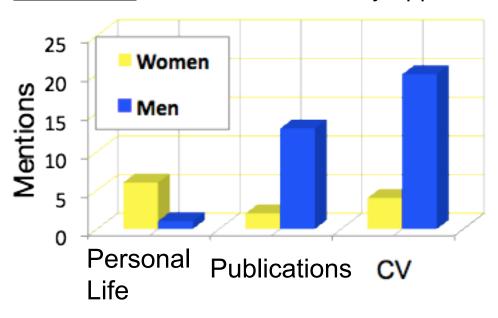
# The Impact of Cognitive Shortcuts During Evaluation Processes

# What are cognitive shortcuts?

- Shortcuts, heuristics, "rules of thumb" that we use to evaluate people and groups or make decisions
- Stereotypes or expectations that we resort to in unfamiliar situations
- Help us process information quickly and make snap judgments (even if inaccurately)
- They can bypass consciously held or "explicit" attitudes
- Can cause us to make mistakes
- Here are some examples:

#### Letters of Recommendation

#### Successful Medical School Faculty Applicants



Trix, F. & Psenka, C. (2003) *Discourse & Society*,14(2); 191-220.

#### **Letters for women:**

- Shorter
- "Mary" instead of "Dr. Smith"
- Greater focus on teaching, personal life
- More "doubt raisers," such as: "It's amazing how much she's accomplished" and "It appears her health is stable."

#### Letters for men:

- Longer
- "Dr. Smith" instead of "Larry"
- More references to publications and research

# PNAS

# Science faculty's subtle gender biases favor male students

Corinne A. Moss-Racusin<sup>a,b</sup>, John F. Dovidio<sup>b</sup>, Victoria L. Brescoll<sup>c</sup>, Mark J. Graham<sup>a,d</sup>, and Jo Handelsman<sup>a,1</sup>

<sup>a</sup>Department of Molecular, Cellular and Developmental Biology, <sup>b</sup>Department of Psychology, <sup>c</sup>School of Management, and <sup>d</sup>Department of Psychiatry, Yale University, New Haven, CT 06520

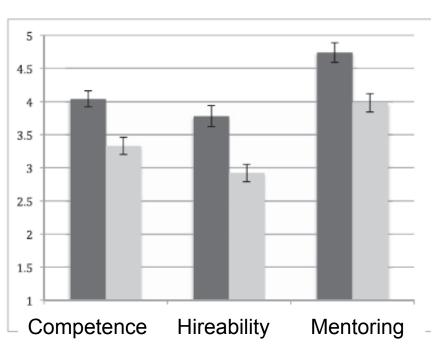
Edited\* by Shirley Tilghman, Princeton University, Princeton, NJ, and approved August 21, 2012 (received for review July 2, 2012)

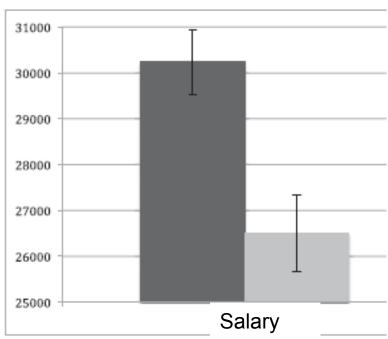
Despite efforts to recruit and retain more women, a stark gender disparity persists within academic science. Abundant research has demonstrated gender bias in many demographic groups, but has gender disparity in science (9–11), and that it "is not caused by discrimination in these domains" (10). This assertion has received substantial attention and generated significant debate

16474–16479 | PNAS | October 9, 2012 | vol. 109 | no. 41

- ➤ Researchers sent out CVs for an undergrad lab manager position to 127 male and female STEM professors
- > CVs differed only in the first name: Jennifer vs. John

#### Results: Bias against the female applicant





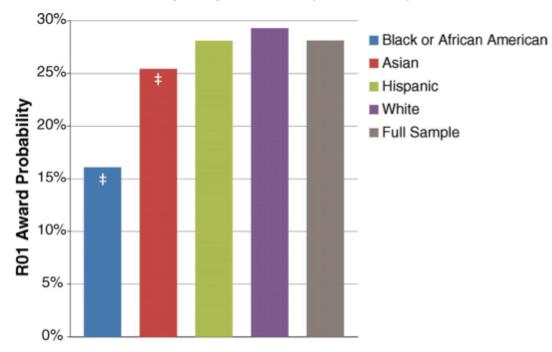
Male Female student

### NIH Awards: Race and Ethnicity

#### Study controlled for:

- demographics
- education and training
- employer characteristics
- NIH experience
- research productivity

~83,000 proposals ('00-'06)



Black or African American faculty had ~ half the success rate of White faculty.

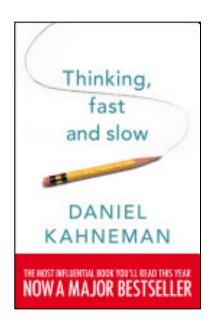


Practices for minimizing the impact of cognitive shortcuts

### Kahneman: Thinking, fast and slow

"Fast" thinking is what can lead us to fall back on cognitive shortcuts. This type of thinking is more common when we are in a hurry, distracted, hungry, or tired.

Fair and accurate judgment is more likely to result from slower, more intentional thinking. Research-tested practices help us slow down and think more critically about decisions.



# Using numerical scores minimizes the influence of cognitive shortcuts

Your committee has already agreed upon criteria and how they should be weighted.

- Now use these criteria to form a rubric\* for evaluating applications
- Committee members use the rubric to score the candidates
- Do not look at others' scores until you have completed your own evaluation
- Bring your completed evaluations to the committee meeting to form the shortlist

\*rubric: a guide listing specific criteria for grading or scoring (academic papers, projects, or tests)

Sample evaluation rubric available at www.udel.edu/advance

#### Table exercise with rubrics

	Weighting				
Criteria	(total points)	Excellent	Good	Fair	
		(>90% criterion weight)	(80%-90% criterion weight)	(70%-80% criterion weight)	
		Thought leader of	Researcher of international	Respectable researcher with	
		international prominence;	caliber with measureable	some impact on field but not	
Scholarship	20	consequential and	impact within academia and	a thought leader	
		impactful researcher	some impact beyond		
		within and beyond	academia		
		academy			
		Very well established and	Solid connections to entities	Some connections beyond	
		connected to entities	out of academia; noteworthy	academia; some	
Appeal beyond	15	outside of academia;	partnerships beyond	partnerships with non-	
academia		meaningful partnerships	academia	academic institutions	
		beyond			
		universities/colleges			
Interdisciplinarity	10	Completely devoted to	Strong record of	Some interdisciplinary	
		interdisciplinary work;	interdisciplinary work; solid	work; some collaboration	
		highly collaborative	evidence of collaboration		
Degree of energy &		Strong research profile in	Adequate mix of energy &	Some energy &	
environment in	20	energy & environment	environmental research in	environment research	
research profile			research profile		
Policy dimension	15	Superb policy dimension	Strong policy dimension	Some policy aspects to	
		evident in research profile	evident in research profile	research profile	
Contribution to		Superior contribution to	Strong contribution to	Some contribution to	
important	15	contemporary debates in	contemporary debates in	contemporary debates in	
issues/debates		energy & environment	energy & environment	energy & environment	
Diversity	5	Adds to campus diversity	N/A	N/A	

	Inadequate Opportunity	Questionable	Good	Outstanding
	to Assess	0	1 - 3	4 - 5
Motivation for coming to UD				
Ability to develop an independent and				
innovative research program				
Ability to strengthen the existing program in				
the area of XXX				
Ability to collaborative with existing faculty				
Teaching interest aligns with needs, shows				
interest and has plan to develop and execute				
new courses, overall teaching potential				
Ability to contribute towards diversity goals				
Ability to communicate effectively				
Overall potential as a future faculty member				

### Optimize conditions for evaluation

- Minimize distractions (e.g., exhaustion, hunger, time pressure, competing activities). Distractions increase the probability of unconsciously defaulting to intuitive, and often unjustified, conclusions.
- Randomize the order of candidate applications for each reviewer (don't read them all A – Z).
- Include diverse candidates in the short list. Research shows including two woman in a finalist pool increases the probability that one will be chosen not just in simple probability (say 2/5).

### Group Decisions During the Search

- Committee meeting to choose a long short list (e.g., for Skype interviews)
  - Comments on using Skype interviews to get to short lists
- Committee meeting to choose a short list for on-campus interviews
- Faculty meeting where finalist is chosen

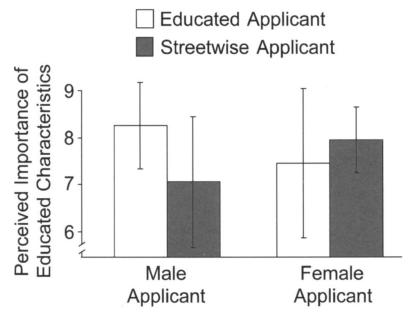
### Pitfalls of Group Decisions

- **1. Confirmation Bias:** "The standard practice of open discussion gives too much weight to the opinions of those who speak early and assertively, causing others to line up behind them." *Kahneman* 
  - Every evaluator should <u>write and submit in advance</u> a <u>brief</u> summary of their position and rationale for prioritizing their top choice

# 2) Unconscious shifts of evaluation criteria: The Police Chief

- Participants asked to evaluate candidates for police chief
- Male vs. female name
- Educated vs. streetwise

Participants unconsciously shifted their evaluation criteria—favoring education or experience—to justify hiring the male candidate.



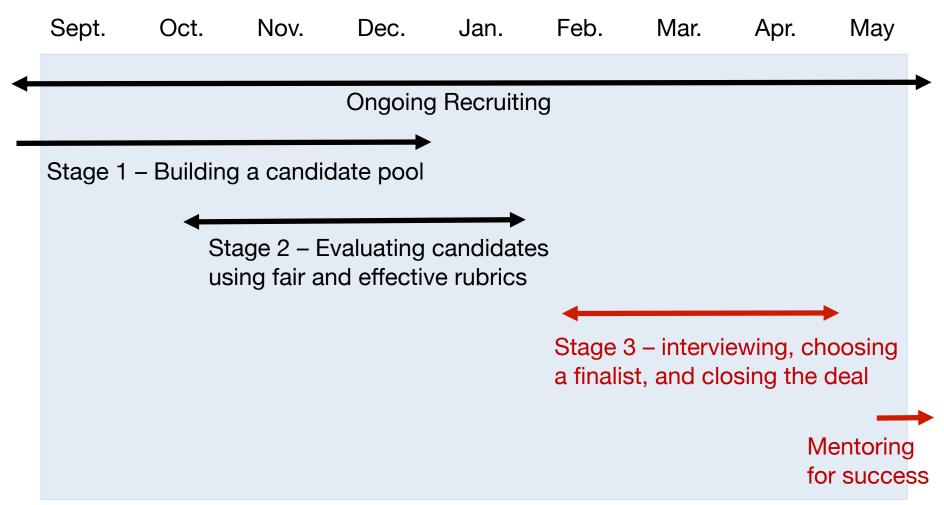
#### How to avoid unconscious shifts

Verify that you are evaluating candidates against the criteria you set in advance.



Heather Fong served as San Francisco's chief of police, 2004-2009. (Source: Wikimedia commons)

# E. Search Process Stage 3: Interviews, choosing a finalist, closing the deal



#### The interview

Interviews are important to long-term recruitment. How you impress candidates influences UD's reputation.

Evidence shows that successful recruiting requires demonstrating a welcoming environment.

- Be a good host. Have a *faculty member* serve as point person during the interview process, including the planning.
- Schedule candidates to meet faculty from other departments who may have related research or resettlement interests.
- Identify key faculty/representatives to meet with candidates to provide information about the university and community, including about local key industries, recreational activities, fine arts, area schools and childcare options.

### The Department Meeting

Be prepared – all members of the search committee should be present and well informed. Avoid the pitfalls of group decisions.



"I can't tell you how many times I have reviewed searches in which the people – predominantly women and minority-group members – were not hired, because they didn't "fit."

A. Stacy, Prof. Chemistry, Assoc. Vice Provost for Faculty Equity, UC Berkeley

### Closing the Deal

- Don't lose the thread. You are not finished when you turn over the recommendation to the chair or dean. Keep updated on the progress of the offer. Keep in touch with the candidate. *Follow up.*
- Support your candidate's negotiating for success!
- If the search does not result in a hire -- keep records and follow up on interesting candidates. If they were competitive today they may well be interested and competitive tomorrow. Things change.

# What challenges do you anticipate in being able to implement these ideas?

# Reminder New from the Provost's Office

Two questions are being added to the **Request to Recruit** form this year (completed at the outset of the search):

- 1. What affirmative actions did the search committee take to recruit a diverse pool of candidates?
- 2. What rubric did the search committee use to evaluate applicants?

# If the search succeeds, you're still not done!

When completing your short list, think about how the candidate can be **mentored to success**.

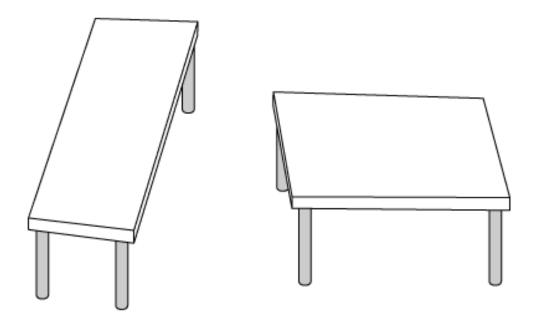
Do not make a decision, then drop out and move on to other things.

Choosing your own colleagues -- choosing the faculty to represent your department -- is a major time commitment. It is also a privilege and an important responsibility. Good luck with your searches!

www.udel.edu/advance

## **Concluding Remarks**

- Thank you for attending
- Good luck on your searches this year
- Please fill out and return your workshop evaluation form



#### **Available Resources**

- Recruitment manual
  - www1.udel.edu/udjobs/resources/Search%20Chair's %20Toolkit.pdf
- Steps for recruiting a diverse candidate pool
  - https://sites.udel.edu/advance/files/2017/03/Active-Recruitment-19ar3dy.pdf
- Sample rating sheets
  - https://sites.udel.edu/advance/files/2017/03/ Rubric\_Research-279ehx3.pdf