



Guanchu Wang <gwang16@charlotte.edu>

[New TT] Suggestions for Year 1 for a new Tenure Track faculty

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To: Guanchu Wang <gwang16@charlotte.edu>, Hieu Le <hle40@charlotte.edu>

Dear Gary and Hieu,

We are absolutely looking forward to working with you this semester.

This is NOT "an urgent todo's" but more of "suggestions and guidance as you plan your first semester here"

- Research
 - Definitely keep in touch with people that you have already worked with. And ask them for guidance and help.
 - Learn how to search (and maybe sign up for emails) for potential research funding opportunities.
 - Meet with Katherine Alexander, Proposal Development Specialist, to learn how to search for potential research funding opportunities. And types of grant writing support they provide.
 - <https://research.charlotte.edu/directory/katherine-alexander/>
 - Familiarize with at least one grant agency.
 - e.g., Attend a NSF grant webinar
 - Submit at least one grant proposal to get practice on grant writing.
 - A good candidate is Faculty Research Grants program on campus
 - <https://research.charlotte.edu/departments/center-research-excellence-cre/locating-funding/internal-funding-programs>
 - Some example of previous funded as a reference <https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1LovWW4CCAkWRRz2rGkL4MrPNr7TWiga>
 - Connect with faculty in similar research areas.
 - Try to attend their research meetings. Share that you are open to collaboration in research efforts and willing to contribute anyways you can.
 - e.g., CharMLab faculty for ML people
 - Recruit students
 - Talk to Jody Marshall (Director of PhD program) and tell her that you are looking for students
 - Look for potential co-mentoring opportunities with other faculty.
 - Be open to MS or Undergrad student recruitment. They can be productive and also give you chance to try more "exploratory ideas"
 - Attend "research networking events", especially with industry
 - Although many of these, by nature, are not fruitful, they will at least teach new things, broaden your understanding of what people are looking for, and teach you how to communicate with people who are not experts in your research areas.
- Teaching
 - Survive the first two semesters of teaching. :)
 - Regularly ask other faculty members (e.g., teaching the same sections) for tips on how to teach well. Ask for sharing of course contents. Find someone who you are comfortable with and ask for their feedback in your teaching.
 - Learn how to teach better by taking at least one seminar <https://teaching.charlotte.edu/events/>
- Service
 - Internally, participate in committees and learn how things work.
 - Externally, continue serving as reviewers, seek ways to do something a little bit more to bring your visibility.
- Gain mentorships
 - Connect with other junior faculty members for tips for you to stay energetic and positive, and be strategic with your time and efforts.
 - Attend CRA mentoring workshops
 - <https://cra.org/career-mentoring-workshop/>
- Enjoy Charlotte (region) too!
 - Many things to enjoy both inside and outside.
 - Take advantage of bike/walking trails in Charlotte
 - <https://parkandrec.mecknc.gov/Places-to-Visit/greenways>
 - Go for play/orchestra...
 - <https://www.blumenthalarts.org/events>

- <https://www.charlottesymphony.org/events/>
- even on campus - <https://coaa.charlotte.edu/events-exhibitions/>
- Drive 1 hour
 - Beautiful view at the top and some trails around <https://www.ncparks.gov/state-parks/morrow-mountain-state-park>.
 - You can see Charlotte from here. Good hiking trails. <https://www.ncparks.gov/state-parks/crowders-mountain-state-park>
- Drive 2-4 hours for
 - View from some of the edges of "rock" are priceless <https://southcarolinaparks.com/table-rock>
 - Bike ride down a mountain <https://www.vacreepertrail.org/>
 - Carver's Gap is one of my favorite places to go
 - <https://www.alltrails.com/trail/us/north-carolina/jane-bald-via-appalachian-trail>
 - Wrightsville beach <https://www.townofwrightsvillebeach.com/>
 - Hilton Head Island (certainly would do bike riding) <https://www.hiltonheadisland.org/>
 - Charleston, SC - lots of history, beautiful architecture, lots of food option. I actually love going here in the "winter" time.

If you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to talk/share with me.

Thanks!

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