Faculty Mentoring Workshop for RTPC

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What can you learn from mentor(s)?

• Why are we here?
  • Excellence in research
  • Excellence in teaching
  • Service to university and research community

• Profile of teaching and research faculty are distinct, but both are an integral and essential part of the school with a clearly defined path for career advancement and rich careers at USC.

• Mentors are here to help you reach your full potential at USC and help you navigate the sometimes arcane world of academia
  • Seek out mentorship advice
  • Talk to your department chair
  • Participate as a full member of the faculty in department and school affairs and governance
Research

• Develop clear career goals as a Research (Assistant) Professor
  • Need to develop a distinct academic profile
  • Focus on what you need to do for successful promotion to Associate Research Professor

• How?
  • Make distinct research contributions for which you are known
  • Present your work at conferences, workshops and invited seminars at peer institutions
  • Apply for research grants (as PI or co-PI)
  • Co-advising of PhD students and postdocs
  • Pursue collaborations at USC and elsewhere in which you play a leading role

• Important
  • For research faculty in UPC/HSC labs: develop a research profile which is particular to you.
  • For research faculty at ISI/ICT: develop a strong academic profile (publications, talks) which might be somewhat different from that of non-faculty technical staff at ISI/ICT.
Teaching

• Teaching is important
  • Teaching faculty play an essential role in teaching our students
  • Teaching faculty are consistently among our most highly ranked faculty in student teaching evaluations

• Excellence in teaching
  • Inspire your students
  • Sit in on lectures, borrow course materials
  • Respect your students, timeliness is key, hold regular office hours
  • Use Piazza and other on-line resources
  • Listen to your students – take teaching evaluations seriously

• What else?
  • Innovation and modernization of curriculum
  • Innovations in teaching approach – new labs, out-of-class activities, flipping ...
  • Participate in ASEE activities – conferences, publications, workshops
Service

• RTPC faculty are fully integrated in faculty governance
  • Department level: merit review, appointments and promotions
  • School level: EFC and APT
  • University: academic senate

• As with T/TT faculty, service should be limited for junior faculty

• External service:
  • Research faculty – play an active role in the research community
  • Teaching faculty – involvement in engineering education policy and innovation with ASEE, IEEE or other professional societies