



**THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY**

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COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING

# **Preparing Future STEM Faculty to Become Stewards of Their Disciplines**

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Professor & Chair,

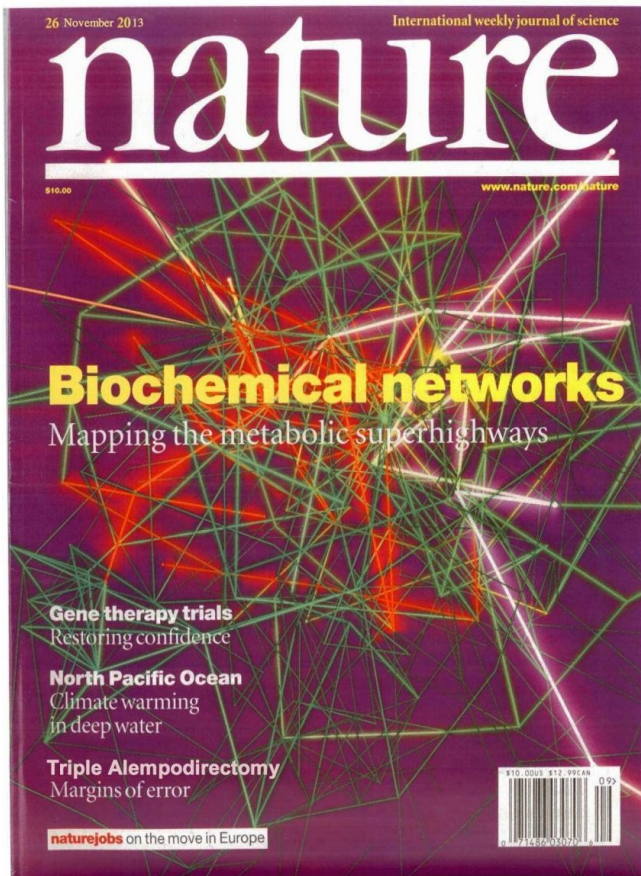
Department of Engineering Education

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**My Engineering  
Education Journey**





Photos by Tim Guow, Jeff Sheldon,  
rawpixel.com on Unsplash



Photos by Zac Nielsen on Unsplash; GoldieBlox, CBS, & Comedy Central

# Big Questions

- How do you engage new audiences in Boyer's scholarship (i.e., discovery, integration, application, and teaching and learning) across faculty types?
- How do you acknowledge faculty who expand traditional boundaries?
- How do you encourage faculty to transcend their disciplinary perspectives?
- What does "high impact" mean for tenure-track AND non tenure-track faculty?
- How do we transform engineering so that engineers are at the forefront of politics, entertainment, athletics, business, and any area that impacts life as we know it?

**Fail Fast**

**Think Out of the Box**

**Encourage and Reward Innovation**

**Promote Teamwork**

**Acknowledge Personalization of the  
Faculty Experience**

# NSF CAREER Study

- 40 engineering Ph.D. holders in academia and industry
- **Stewardship Framework** (Golde & Walker, 2006)
  - Generation, Conservation, Transformation
- **Characteristics** (transcends workplace)
  - Curiosity, adaptability, ethical awareness
- **Expectations** (workplace)
  - Leadership skills, understanding of technical work
- **Recommendations**
  - Interdisciplinary projects , communication skills, proposal writing, running research lab, managing projects and budgets



- **Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE), January 2010**
- *Demystifying the Engineering Ph.D.* (Elsevier) 2019



# Demystifying the Engineering Ph.D.



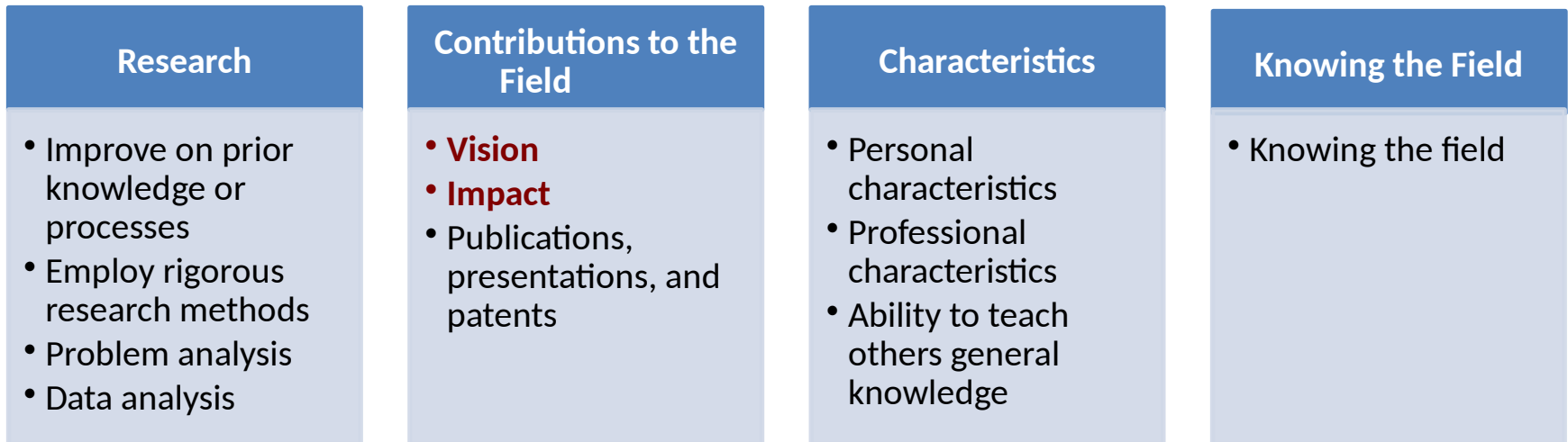
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**Available  
November 2019**

# Generation

Generating new knowledge and defending knowledge claims against challenges and criticism



Berdanier, C.G.P., Tally, A., Branch, S.E., Ahn, B., & Cox, M.F. (2016) A strategic blueprint for the alignment of doctoral competencies with disciplinary expectations. *International Journal of Engineering Education*, 32, 1759-1773.

# Generation

- Involve oneself with collaborative inter- or multidisciplinary research
- Assist on projects that will be commercialized or patented
- Seize opportunities to work closely with an industry-sponsored research project
- If possible, intern at organizations that align with career goals: Industry, start-up companies, national laboratories, private R&D firms, or conduct research at collaborating institutions
- Develop relationships with people who have complementary research skills in order to develop the potential for future collaborations
- Reflect on how dissertation research fits into the larger field, and how one's specific research skills will be valuable to various employment sectors

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# Conservation

Conserving the most important ideas and findings that are a legacy of past and current work

## Technical Skills (general)

- Mathematical fundamentals
- Engineering fundamentals
- Expertise
- Scientific method
- Data analysis
- Technology

## Technical Leadership

- Teaching
- **Assessing relevance in the field**

## Knowing the Field

- Employ literature
- **Identify current technology and trends**
- Synthesize existing information
- Use multiple resources from diverse sources

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# Conservation

- Help to review or critique manuscripts for conference or journal under the guidance of a mentor
- Serve as a session moderator at a conference
- Attend disciplinary conferences
- Teach fundamental engineering courses to novice engineers
- Attend seminars, dissertation defenses, and other presentations in one's own discipline and related disciplines
- Visit relevant start-up companies to understand future commercialization opportunities
- Actively discuss future grant or funding opportunities with advisors, funding agency representatives, and industry sponsors affiliated with one's discipline

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# Transformation

Transforming knowledge that has been generated and conserved by teaching well to a variety of audiences, including those *outside* formal classrooms.

Teaching	Verbal Communication Skills	Written Communication Skills	Communication (General)	Application of Knowledge
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tailoring communication to audience</li><li>• <b>Non-classroom teaching</b></li><li>• Classroom Teaching</li><li>• <b>Mentoring</b></li><li>• <b>Administration</b></li><li>• Outreach</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Presentation skills</li><li>• Conferences</li><li>• <b>Concise communication</b></li><li>• <b>Communicating appropriately for situations and audiences</b></li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Journal publications</li><li>• Patents</li><li>• Concise communication</li><li>• Appropriate mode of communication</li><li>• Research proposals</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Personal attributes</li><li>• <b>Break down complex ideas</b></li><li>• Tailor communication to audience</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Recognize impact</b></li><li>• Commercialization</li><li>• Patents</li><li>• <b>Broader impacts</b></li></ul>

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# Transformation

- Present research at conferences, both within one's discipline and at interdisciplinary conferences
- Pursue teaching opportunities, recognizing that "Teaching" skills are useful within both industry and academic careers
- Apply research expertise to projects which have broad societal impact
- Practice disciplinary writing in a variety of venues: Grant writing, fellowship applications, journal/conference paper publication
- Practice disciplinary communication: Seek opportunities to present at departmental seminars; substitute teach undergraduate courses; practice appropriate communication, grammar, and spelling in all communication (including email)
- Explicitly network with leaders in the field at conferences in order to practice verbal communication about your research and interpersonal skills
- Seek advice and mentorship with disciplinary leaders outside one's institution to build strong relationships and future collaborations that span disciplines.

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<b>Competencies Blueprint</b>			
Desired career trajectory:			
Desired career job description:			
Knowledge, skills or attributes required to succeed in this position:			
	<b>Goals: Conservation Competencies</b> Know and Preserve Disciplinary Knowledge	<b>Goals: Generation Competencies</b> Produce New Knowledge that Contributes to the Field	<b>Goals: Transformation Competencies</b> Translate expertise to a variety of audiences and situations
Prior Competencies			
Semester 1			
Semester 2			
Semester 3			
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# KEEN

ENGINEERING UNLEASHED

Will I be evaluated fairly?

Do I belong?

Can I be my true self?

If I take a risk, will I lose my job?

How do I connect to communities that matter?



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