

HOWDY!

Preparing for Academic Careers and Developing Marketable Skills in Graduate School

Samuel Merriweather, PhD

Associate Director, TAMUS LSAMP



TEXAS A&M
UNIVERSITY.

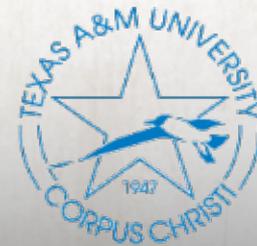
Content

- ❑ My Background
- ❑ Strategies for Academic Career Preparation
- ❑ How to Develop Marketable Skills in Grad
School



My Background

- ❑ Native of Arkansas
- ❑ Industrial Engineering
 - Bachelor and Master of Science – Georgia Tech
 - PhD – Texas A&M University
- ❑ Current Job – Associate Director for the Texas A&M University System Louis Stokes Alliance for Minority Participation (TAMUS LSAMP)



What is LSAMP?

- ❑ Louis Stokes Alliances for Minority Participation (LSAMP)
 - Began in early 1990s by National Science Foundation (NSF)
 - Over 40 Alliances currently
 - Over 600 campuses nationwide
 - Industry; research labs; local, state, and federal agencies
- ❑ Enrich learning experience for underrepresented minority (URM) students in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM)



LSAMP Alliances

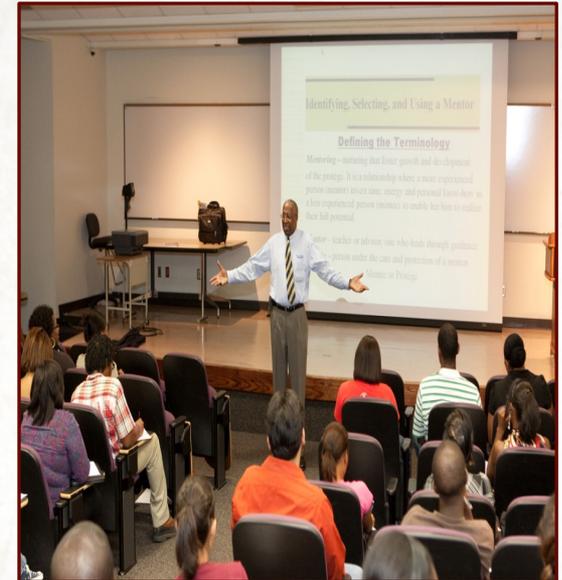


Image source: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Li9oyoX_dGA



Strategies for Academic Career Preparation

- ❑ Think of Your End Goals
 - Research; Teaching; Industry
- ❑ Be Strategic in Your Program
 - Tailor class assignments toward your research
- ❑ Seek Mentors and Social Network
 - Faculty and peers
 - Stress management
- ❑ Take Advantage of Resources
 - Conference registration and travel
 - Professional development opportunities
 - Instructor of record



Developing Marketable Skills

- ❑ Embrace Technology
 - Computer programming
 - Software tools and packages used in industry

- ❑ Hone Leadership Skills
 - Student organizations

- ❑ Sharpen Communication Skills
 - Presentations
 - Writing

Contact Information

Samuel Merriweather, PhD

TAMUS LSAMP

979-845-0778

s_merriweather@tamu.edu

