

Questions asked of me:

1. What experience do you have that you feel would make you fit in well here at XYZ College?
2. Briefly describe your research interests. What are your future research (or scholarly) goals?
3. Here at ABC University, your teaching load will typically be 12 semester hours in the form of four courses, three preparations. What plans do you have to keep your research/scholarship active?
4. What has been the most significant event (or achievement) in your professional career thus far?
5. What to you is the most amazing (important) result in mathematics at the undergraduate level?
6. Our students here at XYZ University are not all math majors. Tell us about your teaching style and expectations of students when you might be teaching college algebra at 8:00 followed by differential equations at 9:00.
7. One of your letter-writers indicated a strong ability on your part in dealing with "difficult audiences" in Math for Elementary Teachers. Please elaborate.
8. Describe your best and worst experiences with teaching.
9. What experience do you have in working with students in some form of undergraduate research projects?
10. What is your favorite course to teach, and why? What is your least favorite, and why?
11. Where do you see yourself professionally in the next five to ten years?
12. What experience do you have teaching with various forms of technology? What kinds of assignments have you given that make use of technology?
13. Briefly describe your innovations in teaching. Tell us what worked out well, and what didn't work out so well.
14. What did you enjoy most about your experience as a graduate student?
15. I notice here that you're in Project NExT. Tell us about your experiences in that, and how it has helped you.
16. What do you do for relaxation (recreation/hobbies)?

Questions I asked my callers:

1. How many math majors do you typically have? How are they broken down into pure math, secondary teaching (etc., if applicable)? How many of them have a second major, and what are their second majors?
2. How large is the typical section of college algebra (or intro. stat., or other service course)?
3. What software packages do you have available for classroom and/or student use?
4. What are your computing facilities like? What sort of computer would I have for use in my office?
5. What is the starting salary range? (I only asked this if I had interviewed elsewhere and expected

an offer. A question like this can be taboo.)

6. What benefits would be available to me, and how soon would I qualify?
7. How does the tenure/promotion process work at XYZ College?
8. (From my third search) What is the likelihood of my getting credit for prior full-time teaching experience (for salary consideration, or for going up for tenure early)?
9. Who was the last person in your department to get tenure/promotion and how long ago was it?
10. Is there any sort of cap on the percentage of faculty who may be tenured at any time? (This is rare, but still occurs. I did ask this only once in a phone interview when it became clear to me that there was some trouble with the tenure system at that particular school.)
11. What are the mathematical interests of your department members? (Be careful not to use "research" unless it is a research school; not everyone may be doing active research. "Scholarly interests" would also be a good substitute.)
12. What do you anticipate the teaching schedule(s) to be for next fall for the individual(s) filling your vacancy(ies)?
13. What sorts of projects have undergraduates been involved in recently?
14. After graduation, what types of employment have your math majors obtained? If any have gone on to graduate school, where?
15. What are some activities department members engage in outside the classroom?
16. What do department members there do for relaxation?