New Faculty Life Hacks:
So you’re at a PUI...

Michelle L. Kovarik
Trinity College, Hartford CT
Teaching

How can I meet the teaching expectations of a PUI while simultaneously producing publishable research?

Be thoughtful about how you spend time preparing for class and grading
Schedule your experiments

- Start with a clear plan
- Be cautious about pursuing too many projects
- Consider whether part of your research could be integrated with your teaching
- Consider the realities of undergraduate schedules
- Plan so you can use summers and sabbaticals effectively

How can I meet the teaching expectations of a PUI while simultaneously producing publishable research?
How can I produce results with a fraction of the budget at a research-intensive institution?

Be strategic about start-up
Come ready to spend

Recent start-up funding levels at liberal arts colleges and comprehensive universities (biology departments, $n = 23$)

median = $30k

How can I solve problems when I’m the only expert in my field on campus?

Identify collaborators & attend conferences

How can I do all these things while still being a good colleague and having time for myself?

Learn to say “no”

(1) Do I want to do this?

(2) Do I need to do this?

(3) Will it benefit me or contribute to my long-term goals to do this?

(4) Could someone else do this better/faster/more easily than me?

(5) Could I commit to part of this but not all of it?