So you got a campus interview…

Good news!

Time for a Precious Academic Moment.
Before you travel…

- Get an agenda for your visit.
- Work with department to make travel arrangements.
- Get information about the job talk.
  - Length?
  - Format?
  - Audience?
  - AV needs?
- Get information about the teaching demo.
  - Which class?
  - Syllabus?
  - Topic?
  - Contact info for instructor?
Elements of a Campus Visit

- Job talk
- Teaching demo
- Campus tour
- Meals and social events
- Meetings! So many meetings…
Meetings with…

- Search Committee
- Department Chair
- Other faculty in the department
- Other faculty outside the department
- Dean and/or other leadership
- Graduate students
- Undergraduate students
We talked with UChicago alumni who teach at local area institutions about the job market, and asked them to answer two questions:

1. What qualities make someone an attractive candidate at your institution?

2. What suggestions would you give to PhD students preparing for the job market?
What qualities make someone an attractive candidate?

• Teaching flexibility and adaptability
• Demonstrated passion for teaching
• Collegiality
• Demonstrated knowledge of institution – beyond surface research
• Willingness to learn and try new pedagogical tools, including online/hybrid teaching
• Attitude and demeanor – not coming off as intellectually arrogant
Suggestions for preparing for job market?

• PhD in hand (or defense scheduled)
• Practice! – mock interviews, job talks, teaching demos, and communication skills
• Pay attention to the teaching demo – especially student engagement
• Diverse teaching experience – and being able to talk about teaching in a meaningful, credible way
• Broad knowledge of higher education beyond one’s own discipline
Some advice…

1. You are a potential colleague, not a grad student or postdoc.
2. Be a decent, courteous human being.
3. Be confident, not cocky.
4. Details, not generalities.
5. Have your questions ready.
6. Demonstrate interest in and knowledge of the institution.
7. Have a snack and water with you.
10. They’re trying to sell themselves as well.
And remember...

Always.
Be.
Conducting yourself as if interviewing.