**TIBBS Career Blitz Career Profile Questionnaire**

1. Please provide your name and employer:

Jonathan Lenz, Catalent Pharma Solutions

1. What is your current title and how long have you worked in your current job?

Principal Project Manager, I have been in Project Management at Catalent for 4 years at various levels (PM I, PM II, Sr. PM, Manager Program Mgmt)

1. Where did you get your PhD and what discipline was it in?

Washington University in St. Louis (though a lot of that time was spent at UNC-Chapel Hill). Microbiology.

1. Did you do a postdoc?

Yes, at the University of Wisconsin-Madison

1. What are your main daily responsibilities?

Oversee drug development and manufacturing projects for external clients. Point person for client interactions – manage project scope and contracts, arrange regular meeting content, facilitate client meetings, publish minutes, respond to all client questions and escalate any concerns. Project leader for internal teams – have awareness to ongoing activities, maintain timelines, schedules, and financial milestone forecasts.

1. What are the keys to success in your career field?

Strong communication skills (oral and written), planning ability, problem solving, ability to handle details while considering the big picture, ability to work with diverse individuals/personalities.

1. What were the most important factors in choosing your career path and current employer?

Meaningful work – the ability to see daily tasks leading to tangible outcomes that impacted people’s lives. Location/family – consideration of my spouse’s career path and proximity to extended family for my kids. Experience – I enjoyed the management/organizing activities I engaged in outside the lab in my postdoc.

1. What activities (if any) did you participate in that helped you be successful in obtaining your job?

Participated in leadership for campus-wide postdoc association – helped to work with different people and constituencies. Founded and helped run a non-profit consulting group for grad-students and postdocs during my postdoc – involved significant planning and project management.

1. What 1 or 2 pieces of advice do you have for people who want to land a job like yours?

Network – it will help you make connections at potential future employers and help you better understand the exact nature of a given job. Cultivate tangible, specific examples of project management – whether leading a multi-lab collaboration or gaining an experience organizing a complex event outside the lab, you will need to be able to answer the question “tell me about a time when you…”

1. How is the work/life balance in your career field and how much of a factor was that in your career choice?

I can keep relatively normal business hours if I choose, and unplug entirely for weekends, holidays, and vacations. I can flex hours for family obligations and work from home as needed. In practice, urgent issues require urgent responses and intensity of projects ebbs and flows, sometimes necessitating committing 50-60 hours a week to address major issues. I am often lightly monitoring my phone/email past “work hours” since my facility is a 24/7/365 operation that works with clients around the globe.