**TIBBS Career Blitz Career Profile Questionnaire**

1. Please provide your name and employer:

Jared Taylor (University of Alabama at Birmingham)

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

Assistant Professor (1 year)

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

University of Florida; Immunology & Microbiology 🡪 HIV infection and type I interferons

1. Did you do a postdoc?

Yes, I was a postdoc for four years at UAB

1. What are your main daily responsibilities?

Teaching classes, preparing lectures, advising students

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

Focusing on teaching, specifically in developing new courses and curriculum. Demonstrating excellence and leadership in service to the University and national/international community. This can be fulfilled by serving on committees or leading committees and being involved in international scientific societies and conferences.

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

I knew early on during my undergraduate career that I wanted to be a teaching-focused professor at a university. It was important for me to be at a university that had a medical school, so I spent time in research and did a research postdoctoral fellowship to boost my CV.

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

I got a teaching certificate through the CIRTL program at UAB while I was a postdoc. During my time in graduate school, I looked for opportunities to volunteer to gain teaching or teaching assistant experience. I also took an elective on teaching college science courses.

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

Shamelessly (but tactfully) pursue what you want to do even if others don’t agree with it. I’m happy to expand on this during the Zoom session.

Figure out what you need to do to get that job and make sure that you can do it at the institutions that you choose to do your graduates studies or postdoctoral studies.

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

It is very important for me to have a good work/life balance. As a professor that only teaches and does not run a research program, I am able to maintain a well-balanced life. I knew that if I pursued a research career and ran a lab that I would be less likely to have the balance and flexibility that I wanted.