

EARLY CAREER

The Early Career Section offers information and suggestions for graduate students, job seekers, early career academics of all types, and those who mentor them. Angela Gibney serves as the editor of this section assisted by the Early Career Intern Katie Storey. Next month's theme will be in celebration of Black History Month. All Early Career articles organized by topic are available at <https://www.angelagibney.org/the-ec-by-topic>.



Looking Back

Our Early Career, Looking Back

Angela Gibney

Since the beginning of the Early Career Section, mathematicians from all walks of life have given their perspectives on various aspects of the profession aimed at helping early-career people and their mentors. While the topics we cover

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are not always new, our readers have told us of being drawn to the voices and the stories they tell, as authors look back.

In 2021, we started a new subseries, *Advice from Our Advisor*, sharing guidance and anecdotes, passed on by the students of influential advisors. In 2022, we will continue this series, and in addition to thoughts about a variety of topics from new voices, we will also feature *This Mathematical Life*, edited selections of audio interviews of a wide range of mathematicians by myself, Daniel Krashen, and Max Lieblich. Full interviews will be available as part of a community page in the story core archive, and in the Library of Congress. More information to come!

Also new in 2022: We have enlisted the help of our first intern Katie Storey, who has recently become an assistant professor in the math department at Lafayette College. Previously she was a postdoctoral assistant professor at the University of Michigan, after earning a PhD in Mathematics from the University of Minnesota and a BA in Mathematics from Carleton College. Katie's research interests lie in the field of mathematical biology. In particular, her research focuses on evolutionary cancer modeling using stochastic processes, probability theory, and dynamical systems.

The year 2021 was one of the most challenging for all of us with the realities and uncertainties of the raging global pandemic. I would like to thank those who managed, with all the extra work, to contribute to the Early Career in 2021 (their names are listed below). If you would like to take a look, you can find their contributions, with the other Early Career articles, on the Early Career Collection¹ page.

This month we are reprinting three articles that appeared long ago in the *Notices*. Later in the year we will similarly reprint some interviews from the collection *Limitless Minds* [Bon18], selections by authors in the BIG Math Network,² and excerpts from *Testimonios* [Tes21]. And while the *Notices* Book Reviews are about recent books, keeping to our theme of looking back, early-career mathematicians will review books that were published some time ago, on topics germane to their lives.

We hope that you are looking forward to the 2022 Early Career, and the new year, as much as we are.

¹https://www.ams.org/cgi-bin/notices/amsnotices.pl?article_id=career&article_type=gallery&gallery_type=career

²<https://bigmathnetwork.org>

Thanks to our authors from 2021:

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- [Bon18] Anthony Bonato, *Limitless minds: Interviews with mathematicians*, American Mathematical Society, Providence, RI, 2018. MR3838367
- [Tes21] *Testimonios: Stories of Latinx and Hispanic mathematicians*, edited by Pamela E. Harris, Alicia Prieto-Langarica, Vanessa Rivera Quiñones, Luis Sordo Vieira, Rosaura Us-canga, and Andrés R. Vindas Meléndez, American Mathematical Society, Providence, RI, 2021.

Interviewing for a Job in Academia

Thomas Hull, Michael A. Jones, and Diana M. Thomas

All three of us have been on the job market repeatedly over the last few years searching for positions at schools which emphasize teaching. We put extensive time and effort into our job searches, and our preparation led to on-campus interviews and job offers. The experience and insights obtained in our job searches may help other candidates on the market.

In our opinion, the AMS Employment Register is a valuable tool for making contacts that can lead to on-campus interviews. We provide suggestions on how to make the most out of your interviews at the Joint Meetings and at prospective schools. To understand our backgrounds, we begin with a short biographical section that contains details on our job qualifications and requirements.

Biographical Information

Thomas Hull, PhD (Graph Theory), University of Rhode Island, 1997. When I started graduate school, I heard about the tough academic job market. I was determined to learn as much about the job application process as possible while still in graduate school. I attended many conferences, learned to network, updated my vita regularly, and received plenty of good advice. Preparing for the job market was as much a part of my daily graduate student career as teaching and performing research.

My efforts paid off: I had 14 interviews at the Winter Meetings in 1997 (either through the Employment Register or on the side), went on 5 on-campus interviews, and received 2 job offers. I accepted a tenure-track assistant professorship at Merrimack College. During my first year at Merrimack I served on a search committee; my duties included interviewing candidates at the Winter Meetings in Baltimore.

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Michael A. Jones is an associate professor of mathematics at Montclair State University. His email address is jonesm@mail.montclair.edu. When the piece was initially published in 1998, he was an assistant professor at the same institution.

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