AARON’S TALK ABOUT GETTING A JOB

HERE’S A GIRAFFE

Just A Friendly Reminder to Keep Your Head Up!
[hello Boilermakers!]

• Who am I?
  • Aaron Dial (A. Joseph Dial)
  • “Regular, Degular” Black Man from North Carolina
  • Sneaker Enthusiast

• Where I’ve been?
  • 2x HBCU Grad [Eagle Pride!]
  • PhD from North Carolina State University

• Why I’m here?
  • DISCO Network Postdoctoral Research Fellow
  • Black Studies + Materialist Media Studies
  • Writing and Researching a Book on Sneakers and Race
BEFORE WE BEGIN...

1. Stay Emotionally Committed
   ◦ Getting Too High or Too Low can only lead to disaster.
   ◦ Your drips or droughts of success should be just that...
   ◦ Your Own!

2. Be Responsible
   ◦ Your Outside Circle most likely will not understand the arduousness of this process.
   ◦ Find a Job Buddy

3. Don’t Isolate
   ◦ Your Outside Circle
   ◦ Find a Job Buddy

4. Self Care is Essential...
   ◦ Make Space and Time for yourself

The Job Market Is A BRUTAL UNDERTAKING!

YOUR QUESTIONS AND COMMENTS AREN’T JUST ENCOURAGED...

THEY ARE ESSENTIAL TO GETTING THE MOST OUT OF THIS TALK

ASK THEM FREELY AND LIBERALLY!
Organization & Managing Expectations.
Applicant Pool Breakdown

Noteworthy Advice: Play the Course not the Competition!

- Campus Visit: 3 Candidates
- Virtual Interviews: 10-15 Candidates
- Application Pool: 250-500 Candidates

Diagram:
- Pyramid representing the applicant pool
- Noteworthy advice box
- Red outline for virtual interviews
- Black outline for application pool
Developing Materials.
Aaron’s Cover Letter/CV.
Aaron’s Research Statement.
Takeaways.

1. **Talk Yo Ish**
   - Remember, you are applying as a potential colleague, not a student
   - Be Bold, Clear, and Impactful
   - First Impression

2. **Write Your Narrative Right**
   - CL, CV, RS, TP must work together to tell a cohesive story
   - Think Episodic!
   - Think 5 years ahead → Hiring Committees want a colleague for A WHILE

3. **Modularity is Key**
   - Have a Solid Base
     - Expand and constrict as needed
   - The Work of each application should take between 30-45 minutes
Aaron’s Diversity Statement.
Takeaways.

1. The “I’m Not an Asshole” Document
   • This document is only important, if you make it important → Don’t make it Important
   • This is NOT the place to prove your wokeness
   • Be Succinct → Less Is More

2. It’s F#ck!n Weird
   • The Document is asking how you see yourself contributing to an academic community that values diversity → even though they may not actually be diverse or located in a state that values cis white men
   • Do not feel pressured to self disclose
   • Be Honest and Subjective but, most importantly, FAIR → University of North Dakota (for example) may not be diverse for reasons other than their inherent desire.

3. Keep It On Brand
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Interviews & Other Stuff.
Aaron’s Interview Experience.
I’D TO HEAR YOUR QUESTIONS!

Fin.