



## Pathways Beyond the Professoriate

Thank you for your participation in this exciting program! Your insights will help equip our graduate students with tools that will enable them to pursue paths to successful careers.

As you prepare your talk, here are some guidelines to help:

- The program runs from 12-1:30. We typically start the formal program closer to 12:15 allowing students to get food and settle in. Your talk can last however long you like (on average 45 mins to an hour, split between panelists) and then we open it up to questions/comments at the end. If your schedule permits, we'd love for you to allow extra time to stay after your talk as often our students prefer to chat after a session rather than asking their questions in front of the entire group.
- A member of the Laney Graduate Student Giving Committee will introduce each speaker. LGS Dean Lisa Tedesco tries to be present for some/all of these presentations making it a priority to show students and alumni the importance of pursuing a PhD for all careers.
- We serve lunch and advertise this as informal. The style is up to you—some speakers sit down and eat with the students while others stand and give more of a lecture. Past speakers have come with prepared remarks, power points, or just spoke “off the cuff”
- **Students from all disciplines attend.** So, while it is important to talk about your specific field and discipline, remember to emphasize how your experiences can be relevant to all graduate students:
  - How do you use your PhD/research in your profession?
  - How did you talk to your faculty adviser about seeking a PBP?
  - Why did your employer want to hire a PhD specifically?
  - Why continue to pursue a PhD if staying in the Academy is not your ultimate goal?
  - What mentors did you use outside of your faculty advisor and dissertation committee?
  - Were you involved in student organizations, internships, extracurricular activities that helped you garner the skills necessary for your current job?
  - Did you network while on campus to help you get to where you are today?
  - What was your strategy for your research and/or dissertation given you planned to take a professional route outside of the academy? (i.e., was it more applied from the beginning?)
  - How did you begin to seek work outside the professoriate? How did you translate your CV to a resume? What types of positions were you eligible for (entry level? Mid-career level?) etc?
  - What skills/ experience did you gain from earning your PhD that can be translated outside of an academic institution? For example:
    - Dedication and determination
    - Ability to adapt
    - Ability to work independently and self discipline
    - Writing skills
    - Critical thinking
    - Research skills and ability to learn a subject, summarize it, analyze it, and share it.
    - Oral presentation skills
    - Present research simply and concisely
    - Time management
    - Attention to detail
    - Teaching (Instructional)
    - Management—class room management, project management, etc