

7 HABITS OF HIGHLY EFFECTIVE ASSISTANT PROFESSORS



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Effective assistant professors . . .



1. Have confidence in their own abilities
2. Understand institutional expectations
3. Ask for help
4. Maintain networks
5. Value balance
6. Are comfortable saying “no”
7. Practice reflection



Definition:
“belief in oneself
and one’s
powers &
abilities”

Confidence is
not arrogance,
overconfidence,
or self-
importance



Confidence

Timelines:
annual reviews,
contract
renewal, tenure,
course
scheduling

Structure of
decision-making

Specifics of
expectations



Expectations



“Help” includes support from family and friends. And administrative staff!

Mentoring is central to success

Mentors are found in many places



Help



Graduate school
colleagues,
faculty and
advisers

Current
colleagues

Research
networks –
conferences,
collaborative
work

Disciplinary
networks



Networks



Balance among
research,
teaching, and
service

**Balance
between job and
non-job (self,
family, friends,
community) **



Balance



Being a good citizen can be taken too far

Reach out to the community, but not too much

Target your service

Delay your response



Say no!



Write! Teaching portfolios & teaching philosophy, research statements

Reflect! Don't lose sight of the big picture



Reflection