

Life in Liberal Arts



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Biology Careers Seminar
Vanderbilt University
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About Morehouse College

- All male, HBCU
- Founded 1867
- ~2600 students, roughly evenly split between 3 divisions
- Liberal arts institution**



Morehouse College

5 of 9



AP

The alma mater of Martin Luther King, Jr., Spike Lee and Samuel L. Jackson is committed to upholding standards of excellence. "Morehouse men" must follow a dress code and choose between 35 areas of study. Courses in pre-med biology are notoriously difficult, and many of the Atlanta college's students opt for pre-law, pre-med or pre-dentistry tracks.

Huffington post

My Career Objectives (1st yr grad)

- Finish grad school in 4 years with a high quality publication
- Skip a postdoc and go directly into industry
- After 20 years or so, retire to teach at a small liberal arts institution

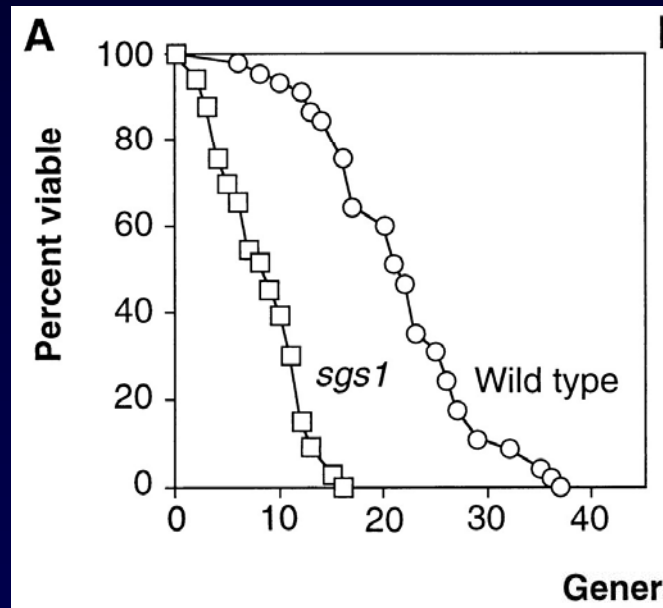
Careers After Graduate School

- Sales Rep
- Medical Liaison
- Science Policy Fellowship (AAAS)
- Teach at High School/Community College
- Law school, Business School
- **POSTDOC!!!!**

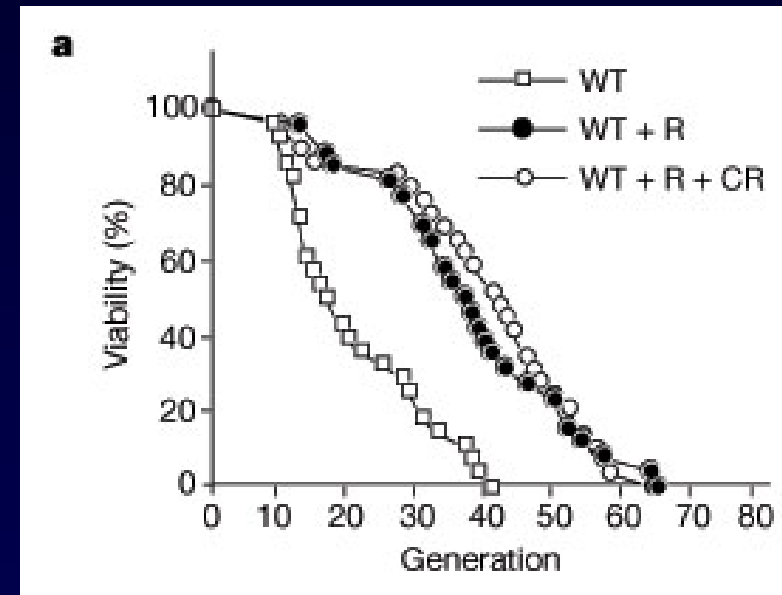
Finding/Choosing a Postdoc

- Conferences
- Choose the biggest, most famous lab you can get into
- Reputation of Institution
- Location
- *Lab Personality*
- Choose a topic you can work on for the rest of your life

Changes in Single Proteins Can Have Dramatic Effects on Lifespan



Sinclair DA, et.al. 1997.

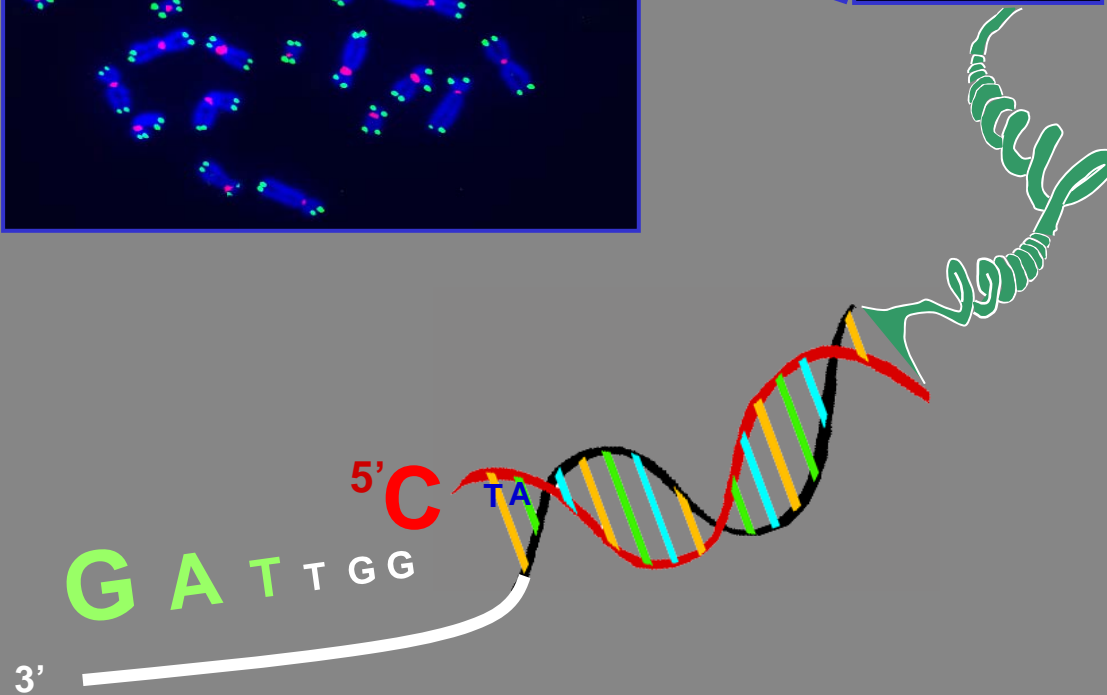
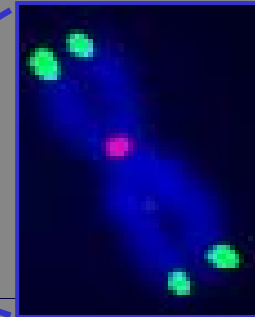
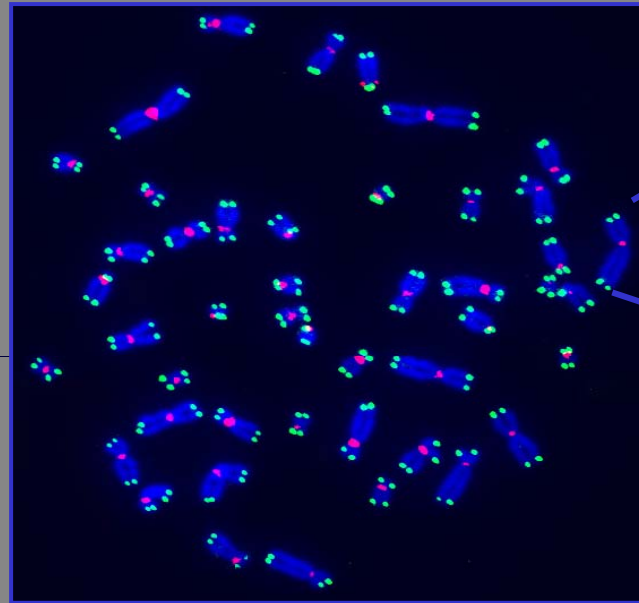


Howitz KT, et.al. 2003.

The Shay/Wright Lab ~2006



The Ends of the Chromosome



When you know you're done with your
postdoc...

You get a job!

Morehouse College Biology Mission Statement

- Provide students with a fundamental knowledge of biology
- Prepare students for and assist them in entering the workforce and graduate and professional schools
- Strengthen the reading, writing, and quantitative skills of our students
- **Develop the analytical reasoning skills and creativity of our students- expose students to contemporary research techniques in biology and enhance their understanding of the scientific method**
- **Conduct meritorious research, within this community, in the field of biology**
- Acquaint students with the history of biology, including the contributions of African American biologists

Teaching at a Liberal Arts Institution

- The real 'Ivory Tower'
- Student interaction really matters
- Immediate Satisfaction
- Completely different skill set needed
- Time management crucial (Getting Things Done)

Compensation

- 50-60k base salary
- 9 month contract
- Consulting

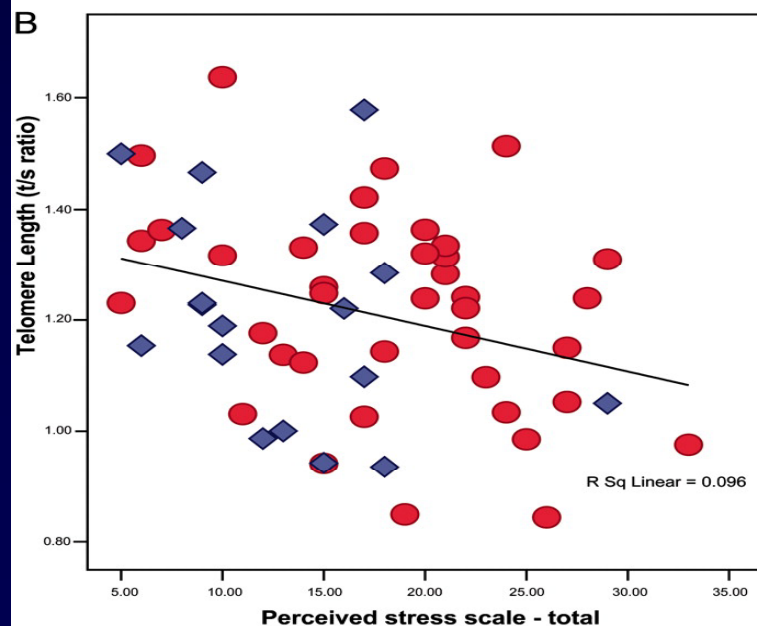
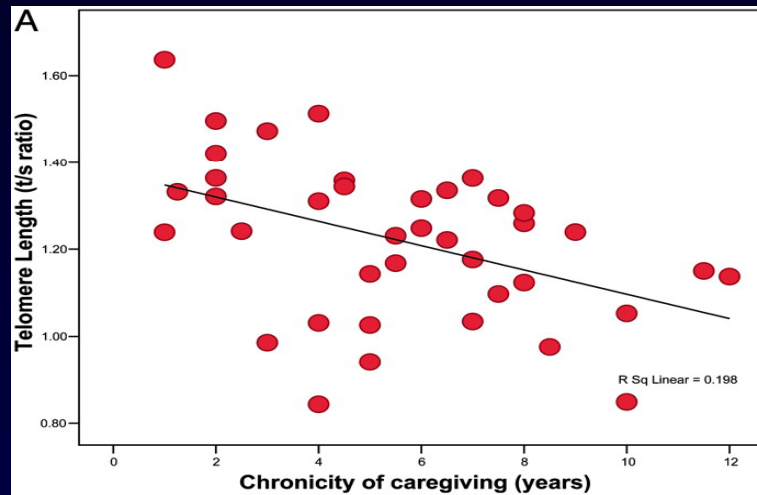
The Tenure Process

- Teaching
- Service
- **Scholarship**
- Meet expectations in 2 areas, exceed expectations in 1

Typical Weekly Schedule

2008	Sunday, Sep 7	Monday, Sep 8	Tuesday, Sep 9	Wednesday, Sep 10	Thursday, Sep 11	Friday, Sep 12	Saturday, Sep 13
all-day							
8 AM			8:00 AM CH2 Chemistry of Life		8:00 AM CH3 Cell Structure		
9 AM							
10 AM			9:15 AM Bio Class		9:15 AM Bio Class		
11 AM		10:15 AM Molarity Meeting					
NOON			11:00 AM Biology Seminar		11:00 AM Environmental Safety		
1 PM				1:00 PM Library Orientation & Case Study 2			
2 PM		1:30 PM Office Hours			1:30 PM Office Hours		
3 PM		3:00 PM Orientation/Metric System				2:30 PM Library Orientation & Case Study 2	
4 PM							
5 PM						5:00 PM Hopps Biology Present- ation	
6 PM					6:00 PM Study		
7 PM							

Shortened Telomeres are Associated with Human Diseases



- Cardiovascular Disease
- Hypertension
- Hypercholesterolemia
- Diabetes
- Early mortality
- Psychological stress

Epel ES, et.al. 2004.

The Role of Telomere Shortening in Aging Related Diseases

Shortened Telomeres:

Health Disparities:

Diabetes



2.1x more likely

Heart Disease



30% more likely

Dementia

Obesity



40% more likely

Mortality



7% lower in Black men

Cancer



10% more likely