

# Michael Finiguerra

- M.S Marine Sciences 2007- Stony Brook University
- PhD Oceanography 2013- UConn Avery Point
- Faculty EEB 2014 Avery Point (now Professor)
  - Only full-time biology faculty
  - Teach 8 different courses
- Teaching, Mentoring, Advising awards
- Love committees
- Research at Avery Point
  - ~\$2.0 mil. Funding; pubs- *Nature Climate Change*, *Nature Comms*.  
*PNAS*, *Proc. Roc Soc. B*,



'Wee Baby  
Circa 2007

# Research and Administration:

- Funding: DEI, Pedagogy, Student Success, Ecology & Evol
- Co-Director (and PI) of Mystic Aquarium-UConn NSF REU Program
  - New site award with two renewals
- Experimental Evolution- Marine Copepods
  - Warming and Acidification
- CLAS Leadership Fellow
- CLAS Mentor ~40 early career teaching faculty
- Creator and Director of the Peer Mentor Campus Change Program
  - University wide program to help students transition from regional to main campus
    - >1000 students; 20 undergrad employees
  - <https://dos.uconn.edu/campus-change-mentoring-initiatives/>



# Plant Computational Genomics

- Conservation Genetics
  - Population/Landscape Genomics
  - Transcriptomics
  - Epigenomics
- Genome Biology
- Computational Biology
  - Scientific Databasing, Visualization, and Analytics





# Conservation Genetics *with Genomes*



# CartograPlant - GxPxE

**CartograPlant** About Analysis Jobs Login

Botanic Damage: North America  
Density population: 1000  
Climatic variables: World, WorldClim v2  
Major Soil Types: World, Conservation, Bioparc Institute  
Major Soil Groups:   
Opacity: 50%  
Species Range Maps: ICRS, ICRS/USDA & ICRS  
Layers

Internal submissions:   
TreeSnap:   
Direct submissions:   
BIEN:   
Plant Data Sources

Filters: Family:  Genus:  Subfamily:   
Go:

Coordinate Search:

**TGDR300-LK1007**  
38.849 Lat | -86.53 Lon  
Elevation: 180 m

Rosaceae  
**Prunus serotina**

Coord. Type: Exact  
Source: Data Dryad  
[STUDY INFO](#)

Soil Type: Acrisols  
Soils with subsurface accumulation of iron sulfide above and below base

[ADD PLANT](#)

Map Summary  
Number of Plants: 306230  
Selected Plants: 0  
Species count: 505  
Publications Count: 360  
Number of Layers: 2

[User's Guide](#)[Developer's Handbook](#)[Extension Modules](#)[Tripal Community](#)[Tripal @ GitHub.com](#)[Tripal @ drupal.org](#)

Tripal is a toolkit for construction of online biological (genetics, genomics, breeding, etc), community database web portals, and is a member of the [GMOD family of tools](#). Use Tripal out-of-the box to create a basic genomics site (with no programming) or customize using Tripal's Application Programming Interface (API). Tripal is free and open-source (GNU General Public License version 2), allows for extensive customization and is backed by a helpful user community. A strength of Tripal is our community of developers. Customization and extension of Tripal can be created and shared with other sites as modules allowing you to create your own tools and visualizations or leverage those developed by groups around the world. To see what features Tripal provides, see the [Tripal User's Guide](#) and the [Developer's Guide](#)! If you have any questions, thoughts, or concerns, we would love to hear from you [on our GitHub Issue Queue](#)!

## Sites Using Tripal

Tripal sites are found worldwide.



[Browse the selected sites below](#) or [view more](#)

[Banana Genome Hub](#)

## News

### Tripal Codefest and Workshop @ PAG

Oct 30, 2023



For registration and abstract submission please see the [Events Page](#).

### Tripal v3.10 Released

## Technical Blog Posts

### Introducing the Helium Data Exporter Tripal Module

*An additional way to visualize pedigree and phenotypic data stored in a Tripal web portal.*

DOI: [10.5281/zenodo.6611672](https://doi.org/10.5281/zenodo.6611672)

The Helium Visualization Framework is a visualization tool for large-scale plant pedigree data with the option to overlay categorical data. We developed the Helium Data Exporter module to transform gempiasm and raw phenotypic data from a Tripal web portal into a compliant format for seamless and error-free data conversion. Together, this module and Helium provide meaningful assistance to plant breeders and researchers to predict and visualize inheritance.

[\[View more\]](#)

Rish  
Sean  
Peter  
Emily

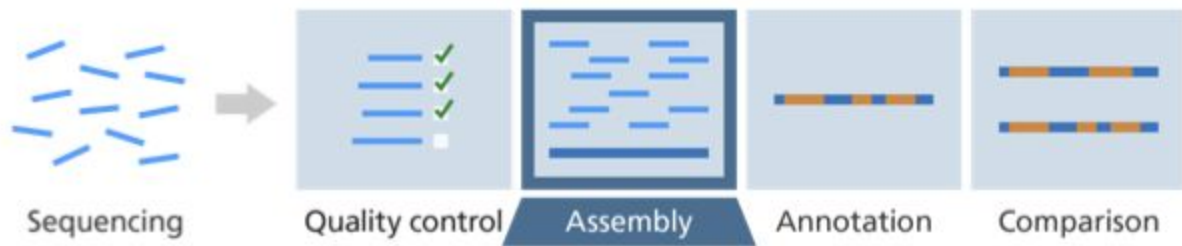
# Genome Biology



# Answering questions

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- Genome sequencing and assembly strategies
- Transcriptomics
- Genome Annotation
- Functional characterization
- Methylation Analysis





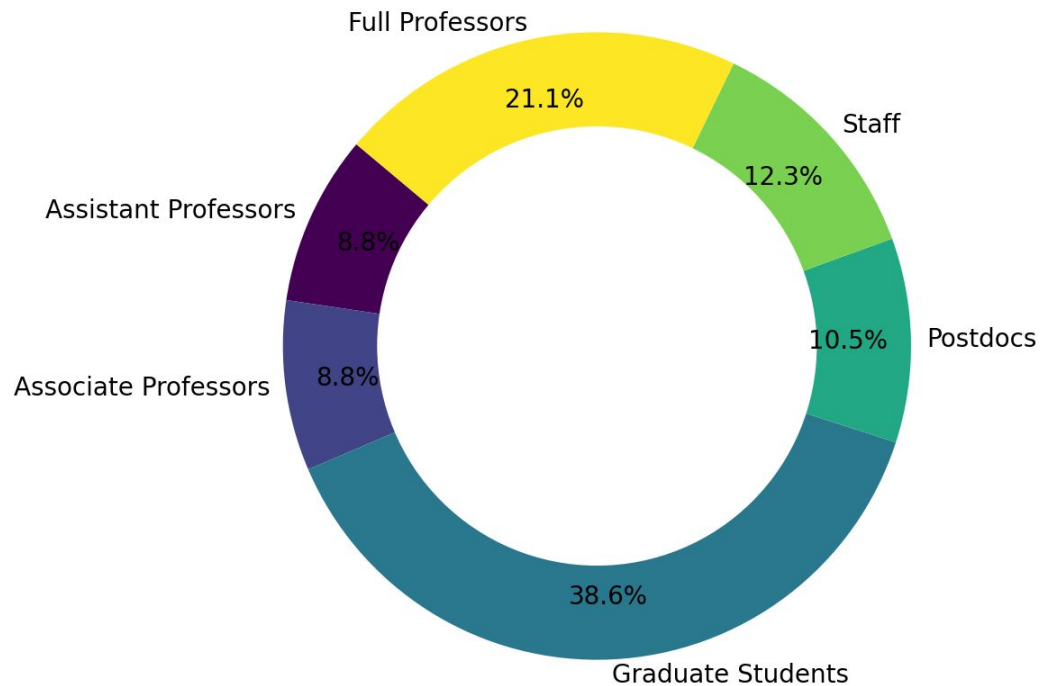
What did you learn from  
tracking your time?

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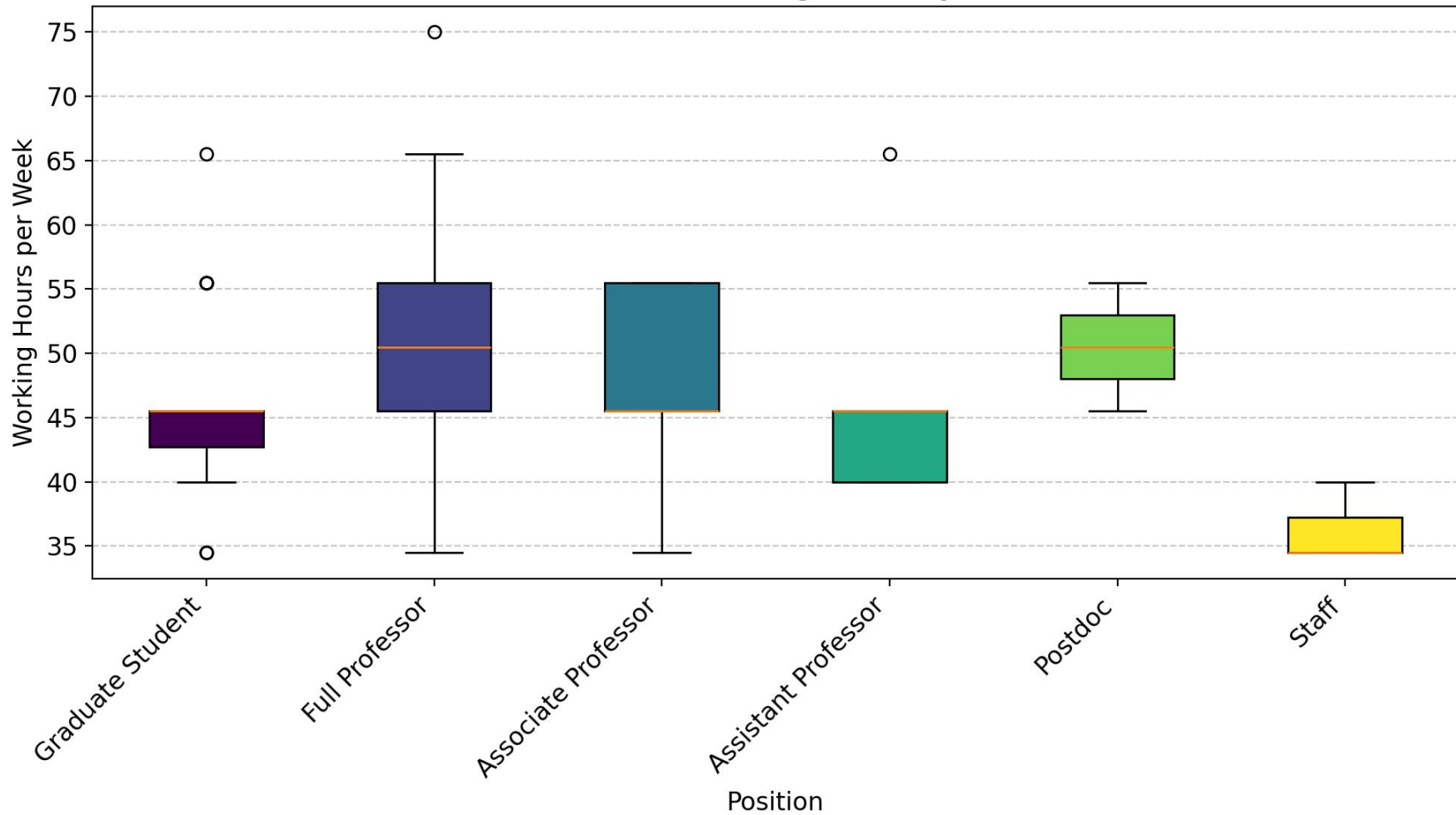
What aspects of time  
management are most  
challenging?

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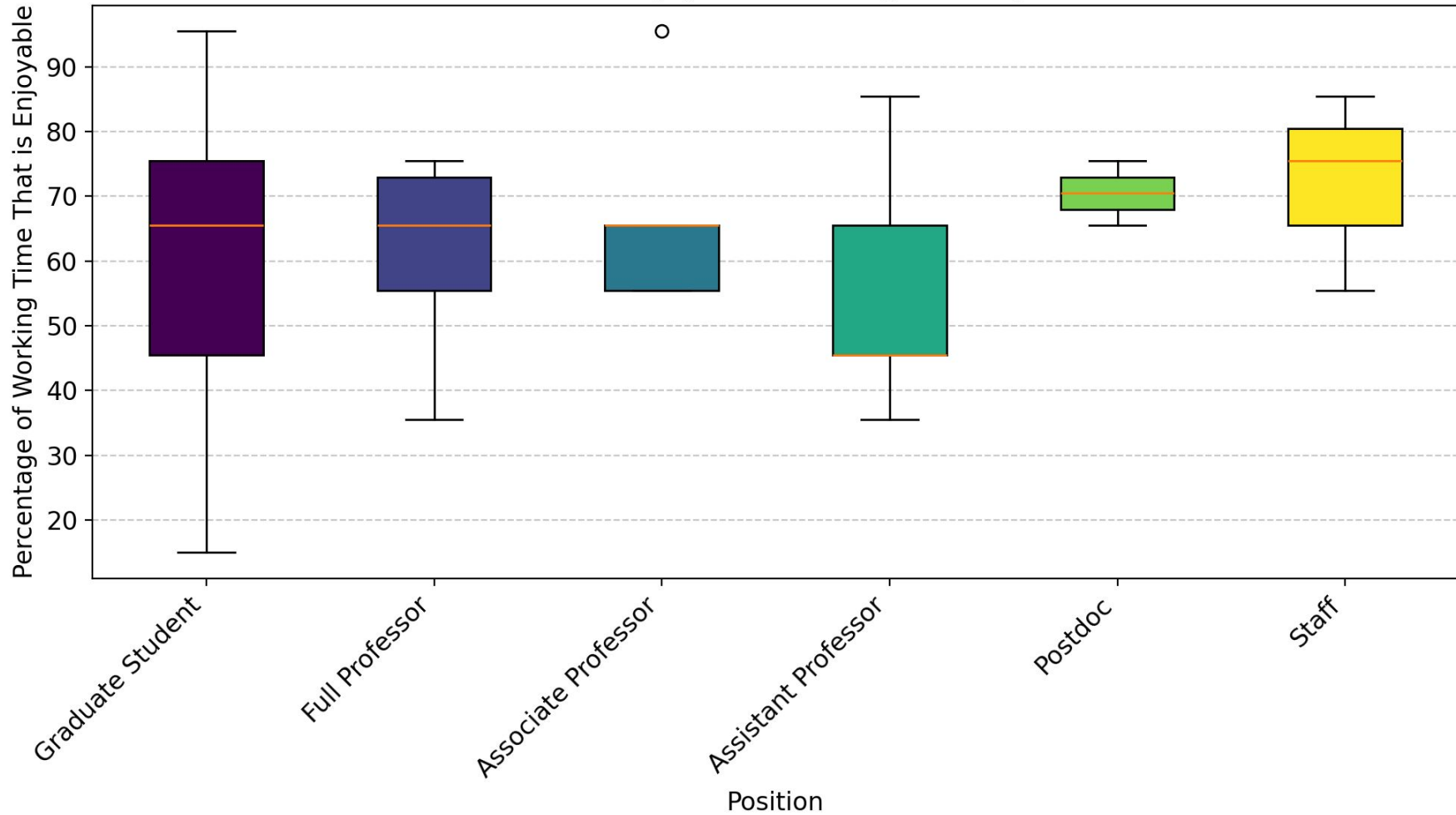
# Work/Life Balance Survey Results (48 responses)



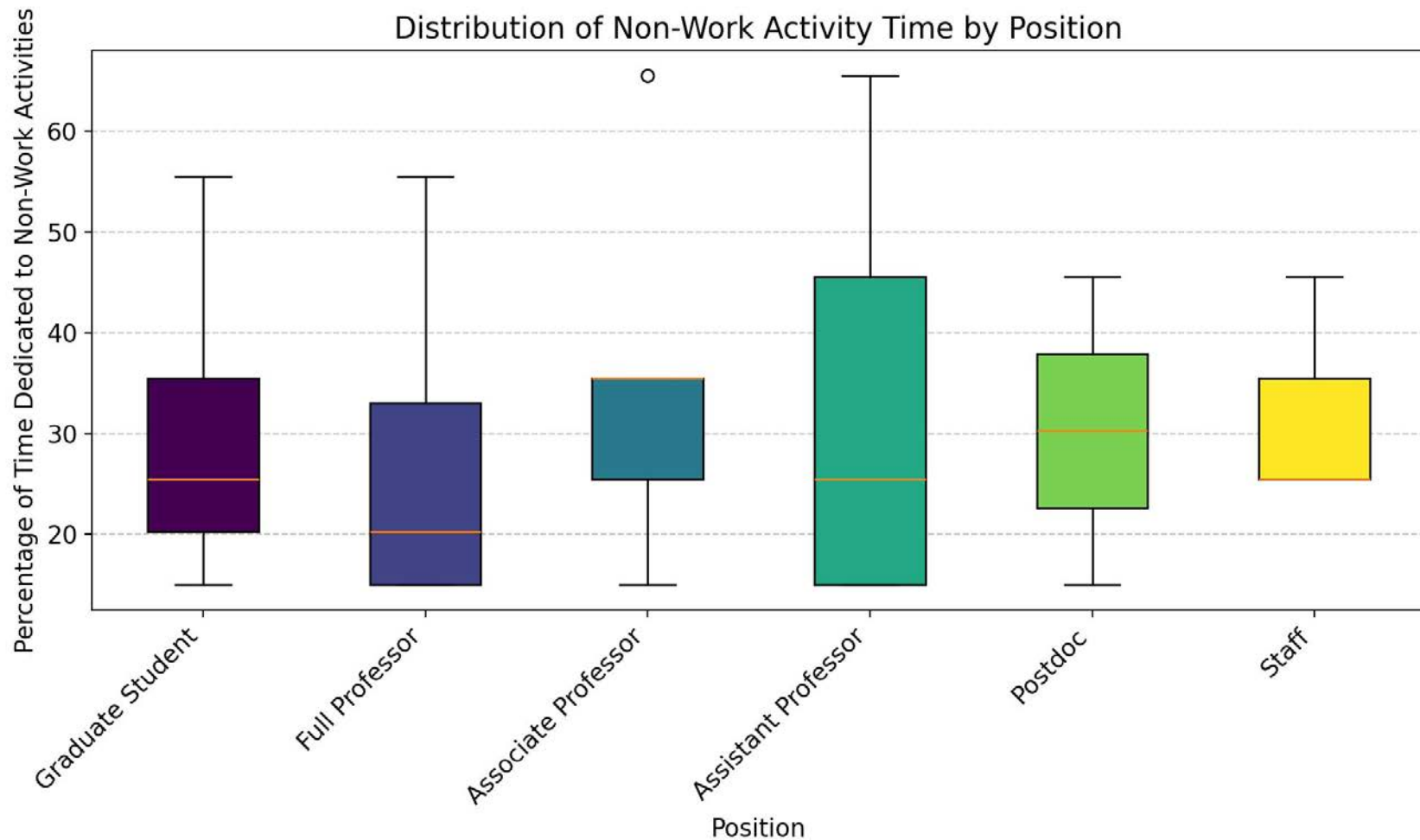
# Distribution of Working Hours by Position



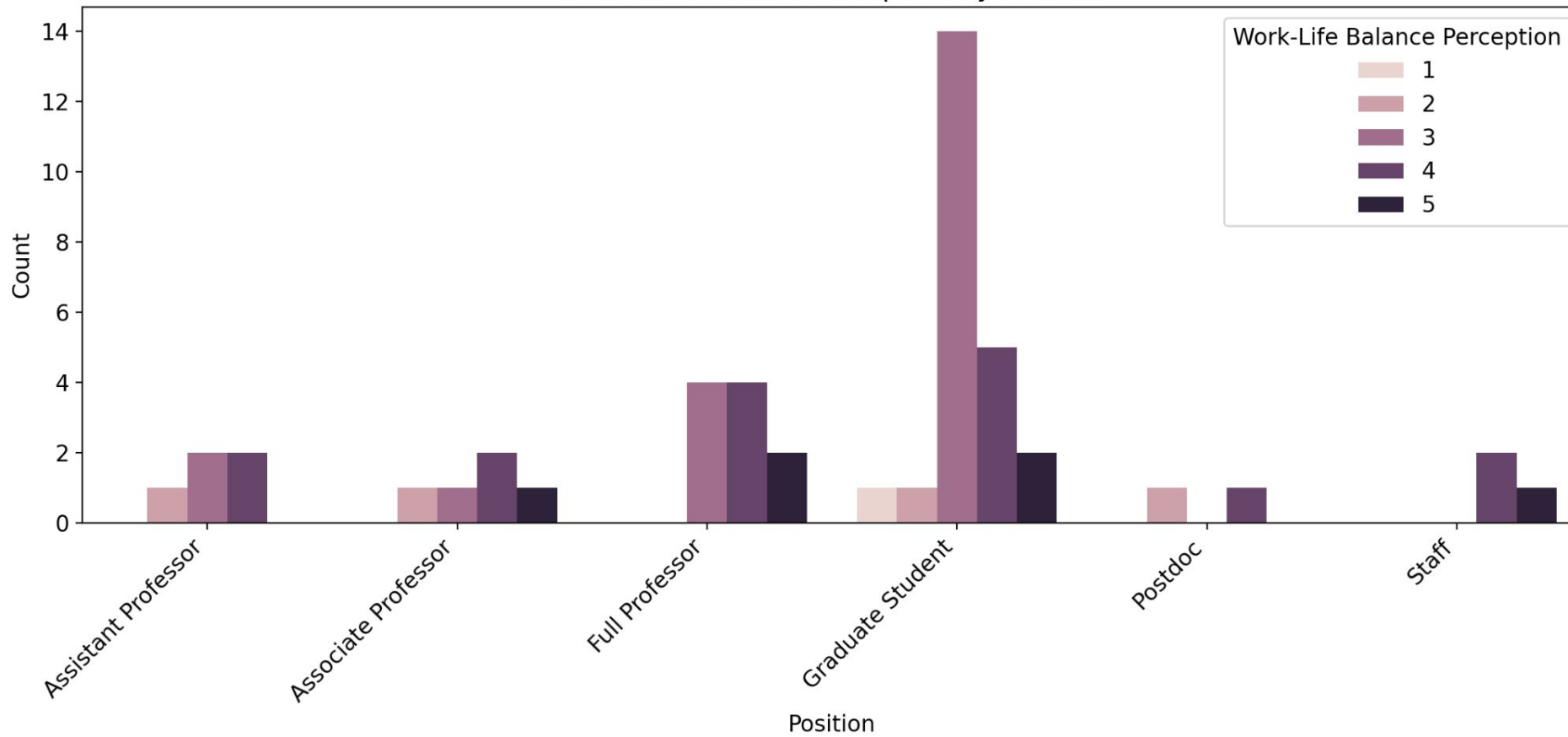
# Distribution of Enjoyable Working Time by Position



Distribution of Non-Work Activity Time by Position



### Work-Life Balance Perception by Position



If you were asked to co-author an exciting paper for Nature, what activities would you pull back on to allow for this?

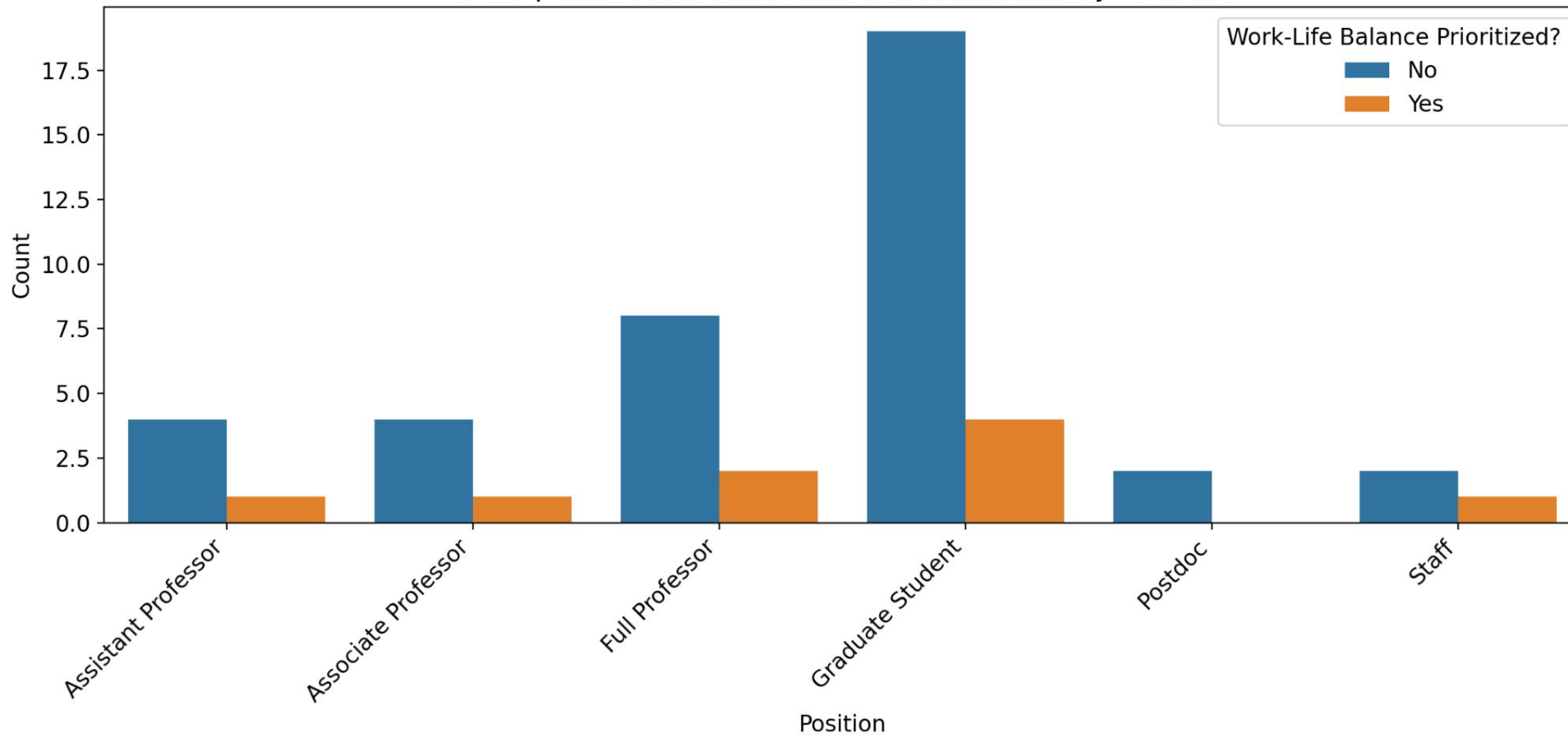
- **Leisure/free time/social/exercise/family/weekends**
- **Everything**
- Other papers/reviews/editing
- Admin/service



# How would you define a successful work life balance?

- Happiness/Balance
- Achieving both personal and professional goals
- Not feeling torn/exhausted
- Defined boundaries
- Different for everyone/uneven
- Impossible?

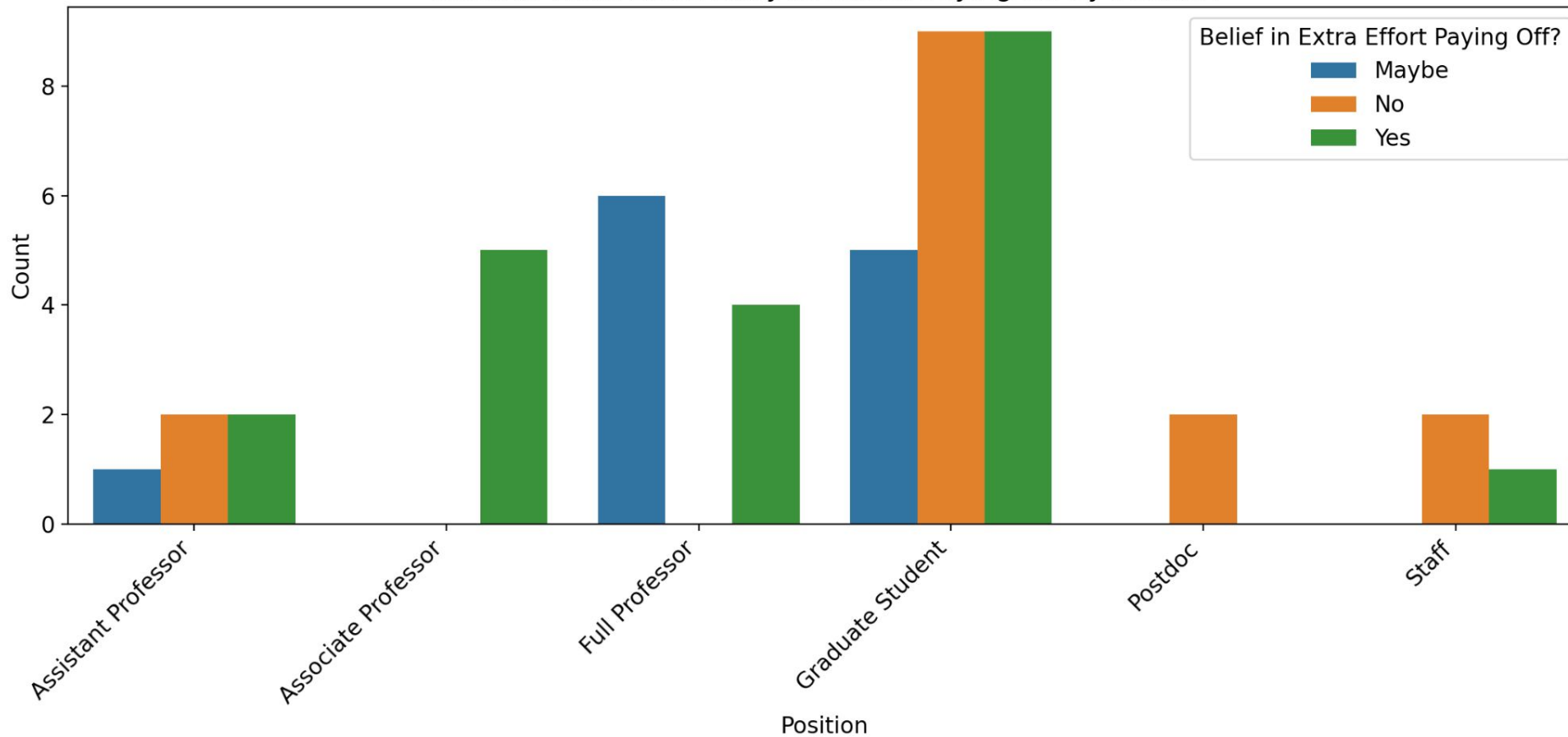
Perception of Work-Life Balance Prioritization by Position



Do you believe that extra effort  
(more work) early in one's career  
provides a foundation for more  
balance later?

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Belief in Extra Effort Early in Career Paying Off by Position



# Professional cost to work/life balance

22 = Yes

12 = Maybe

14 = No

**How do you figure out what  
work-life balance works for you?**

**Honesty and Prioritization**

(Everyone is different)

# Finiguerra Priorities

1. Family Life
2. Geographic Location
3. Teaching and Mentoring
4. Research opportunities

# Wegrzyn Priorities

1. Family, Friends, and Travel
1. Research and Mentoring
1. Hobbies (art, baking, etc)

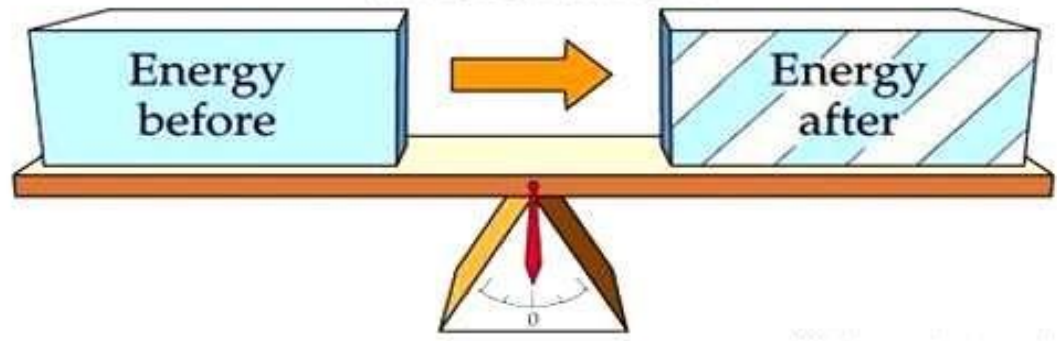


Discuss your priorities.  
Remember, they can/should  
be different than others.

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# The First Law of Thermodynamics

Energy transformation



## Principle of allocation:

resources cannot be allotted to all functions at the same time

Time is your most valuable Resource

# Jill's schedule last week

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Department/Lab/Project Meetings – 20 hrs

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Seminars/Journal Clubs/Teaching – 7 hrs

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Reference Letters - 3.5 hrs

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University/College Service – 2 hrs

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ISG/CBC Meetings – 3 hrs

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Admin/Slack/E-mail – 6 hr

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Writing/Editing/Talk prep – 12 hrs

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Coding/Analysis/Research – 8 hrs

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**Total – 61.5 hrs**

# Jill's Daily schedule

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**6:30-7:30am-** pets, e-mail, get myself ready

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**8:30am-** arrive in Storrs (commute)

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**8:30am-6:30pm** - Meeting frenzy

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**7:30pm** - home

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**7:30pm-midnight** - Arrive at home, dinner, chores, gym/social, pets, read/edit/e-mail



# Michael's Daily schedule

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4:30-5:00am- COFFEE, chores, lunches for all

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~6:30am- wife leaves, kids start to wake up

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7:40am- Beg kids to get ready

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8:03am- Bus pickup

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**8:30am - Arrive at Avery Point; work**

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Lecture prep, classes, respond to e-mails, eat, student meetings, virtual meetings, procrastinate on grading

3:00pm- Leave to get kids off bus

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3:45 -> Family time; farm chores  
(~9:30pm pass out reading)

What do I cut?

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What tools/strategies enable  
efficiency for you?

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efficiency for you?

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# Some Tools for Efficiency?

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To do Lists

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Calendar Software

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Coffee/Walk/Run/Yoga Break

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Virtual Meetings

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Delegation of Tasks

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Inbox Prioritization Software

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Writing Blocks

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Speed Meetings

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Project Management Software



# WORK-LIFE BALANCE: FIN

- Strict work-Life separation
  - At AP I am all yours for help, no appt needed!
  - Do not respond to e-mail after 4pm and on weekends.



# Compartmentalize

- Ability to focus on task at hand and not let all projects consume you at all times
- Very hard skill to learn
- Cornerstone of efficiency

# Daily Struggle

When do you work best?

Most 'awake' vs 'sleepiest'

Do hardest thinking when you are at your best

Save trivial tasks for when you know you will crash

