

## TIBBS Career Blitz - January 2012

### Career Profile of Faculty at a Primarily Undergraduate Institution: Kassy Mies, PhD

#### **What is your current title and how long have you worked in your current job?**

Assistant Professor of Chemistry, Mary Elizabeth Yarborough Junior Chair, 5.5 years

#### **Where did you get your PhD and what discipline was it in?**

Duke University Department of Chemistry

#### **Did you do a postdoc?**

No

#### **What are your main daily responsibilities?**

Teaching, advising (both research and academic advising), professional development, service to the college (committee work and department service)

#### **What are the keys to success in your career field?**

- Self motivation (balancing a wide variety of job responsibilities without direct supervision)
- Patience
- Balancing the workload (intense work load during the semester, light over breaks and summer)

#### **What were the most important factors in choosing your career path?**

Love of academic setting, interacting with students, desire to share my passion and stimulate interest in chemistry

#### **What 1 or 2 pieces of advice do you have for people who want to land a job like yours?**

Take advantage of every teaching opportunity available and create teaching opportunities if they are not available. Show a clear and consistent path toward a teaching career by TAing, guest lecturing, taking teaching courses, participating in teaching seminars/courses (Preparing Future Faculty, for example.)