

Interview Guideline

The questions you will be asked during the interview are shared with you below in order to allow you time to prepare.

1. Is plant blindness/ lack of interest in plants a problem in your institution?
2. Do you have issues getting students to enrol for your plant science degrees?
3. Do you think a first-year plant science module should have
 - a. A narrow approach, covering a few concepts in detail, or
For example:
 - *Structure and function*
 - *Plant tissues and organs*
 - *Transport mechanisms in plants*
 - *Plant responses to biotic factors*
 - *Plant responses to abiotic factors*
 - b. A broad approach, touching on multiple concepts within the field? Please explain.
For example:
 - *Evolution*
 - *Pathways and transformations of energy and matter*
 - *Information flow, exchange, and storage*
 - *Structure and function*
 - *Systems*
4. Which of the following threshold concepts (concepts students need to understand before they can proceed) do you think should be taught in a first-year plant science module? Please explain.
 - a. Evolution
 - b. Pathways and transformations of energy and matter
 - c. Information flow, exchange and storage
 - d. Structure and function
 - e. Systems
 - f. Other
5. Which of the following threshold competencies (competencies they need to understand before they can proceed) do you think are important to be taught in a first-year plant science module? Please explain.
 - a. Process of science
 - b. Interdisciplinary nature of science
 - c. Integration of science with society
 - d. Communication
 - e. Collaboration
 - f. Understand and interpret data

- g. Quantitative competency
6. Which of the above listed concepts and competencies do you think should **not** be taught in a first-year plant science module? Please explain.
 7. Before the information leaflet have you ever heard about Vision and Change?
 8. What do you think the barriers to changing a first-year curriculum will be?
 9. Do you have any suggestions as to how we might overcome these challenges/barriers?
 10. What kind of resistance do you foresee would lecturers have if this change is being introduced?
 11. What could potentially be a good selling angle for us to motivate people to be willing to do this change?
 12. How important do you think hands on practical sessions are for a first-year plant science course?