**Ask potential PI:**

**-** Tell me about some of the research ongoing in your lab. What are the central themes of your research, and where would you like to see your work expand?

- How would you describe yourself as a PI? What do you consider your approach to managing a lab? Are you hands-on or hands-off?

- How do you monitor student progress?

- How do you typically communicate with your students? E-mail, phone, text, in person?

- How many students do you have in the lab currently? How many do you want to have?

- What are your expectations for students? How many hours a week should I be doing research? Teaching? Etc.

- Do you have a project in mind for me? How much freedom do I have to change projects if I find something I want to do more?

- Would you consider yourself collaborative? What are your philosophies when working with collaborators?

- Tell me about the department at University. Is it supportive of its graduate students?

- What is the graduate student financial support like at University?

- Do you have lab meetings? One on one meetings?

- What makes somebody a good fit for your lab?

- Tell me about some of your previous advisees! Where are they now?

- What conferences do you like your lab to attend? Is there funding available to go to those conferences? If I want to attend other conferences are you supportive of that?

- What are your philosophies on graduate students training undergraduates and other lab members?

- What are your expectations for publication for your graduate students?

- Do you encourage your students to apply for external funding?

- What is the expected timeline for my degree? How is that enforced?

- Do you teach? What courses? Do you enjoy teaching?

**Ask current Grad Students:**

- What is your research? Is it exciting to you? How did you pick that particular project?

- How is it working for PI?

- Do they seem to care about where you want to go with this degree, or just about you finishing this degree?

- How do you find communication with PI? Is it easy to get a hold of them?

- How does PI react to questions?

- Describe a time you made a mistake and how they reacted.

- Have you ever disagreed with the PI about something?

- What are lab meetings like?

- What are one-on-one meetings like?

- What is this PI’s greatest weakness? Best quality?

- Describe the lab “vibe”. How often do you guys talk? Hang out outside of lab?

- Have you trained any undergrads in this lab? What was that experience like?

- Tell me about the teaching duties at University. Do new people get stuck with “bad” classes? How much time does the teaching require? Do you enjoy it?

- Tell me about living on the salary of a TA/RA in that location. Can people live alone or do they have roommates?

- Tell me what you do for fun in City.

- Do you socialize frequently with graduate students in other labs?

- Do you think the department is supportive of graduate students here?