

Will Pearson



Will is the owner and founder of Will Pearson Coaching (willpearsoncoaching.com), where he combines his science background and business acumen with skills in leadership developmental coaching, providing powerful coaching support for teams and leaders in science, engineering, technology, and medicine. He has studied successful leaders and learned which measurable, validated, alterable leadership qualities promote a climate of collaboration and innovation. His clients, often skeptical of coaching or the “soft sciences,” relate to him as a peer and are willing to explore new territory with him. These clients range from current leaders to future leaders to those on the front lines who may not consider themselves leaders, all of whom are open to the idea that effectiveness in work and life starts with leadership of self.

Will earned his Ph.D. in Organic Chemistry at the University of Wisconsin and completed an NIH Postdoctoral Fellowship at Yale University before beginning his academic career in organic chemistry at the University of Michigan, where he rose to the rank of full professor. Over a twenty year timespan, he was an award-winning teacher and ran a well-funded, internationally-recognized research program in synthetic organic chemistry, notably in the subfield of heterocyclic chemistry. His Ph.D. students and postdoctoral fellows typically gained drug discovery positions in the pharmaceutical industry.

After his professorship, Will broadened his career experience as Vice President for Research and Development at Berry and Associates, a small chemistry company that serves the biotech industry, where he helped develop new specialized monomers for creating modified synthetic DNA and RNA. He then formed Pearson Chemistry Solutions, a consulting company that provides continuing education and legal consulting in the field of organic and heterocyclic chemistry. He has taught special topics in these fields at over seventy companies around the world.

Will lives in Raleigh, NC, where he enjoys hiking, running, and sports car racing. Beyond leadership developmental coaching at the corporate level, he particularly enjoys supporting teams at local nonprofits as well as coaching those who are early in their careers.