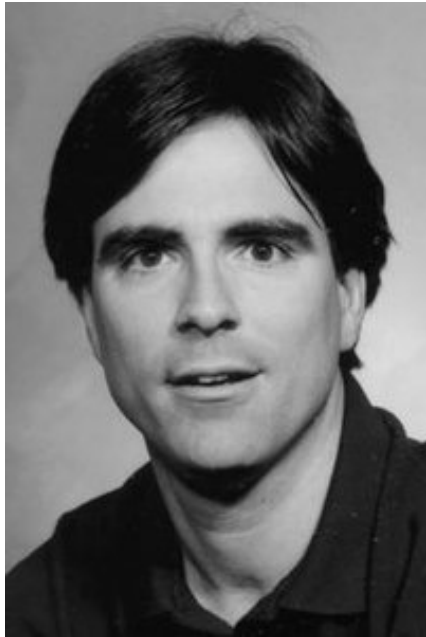


A Last Lecture for Biomedical Informatics Students



Brian E. Chapman, PhD
Department of Radiology and Imaging Sciences
University of Utah

A Last [BLANK] Comes to All of Us

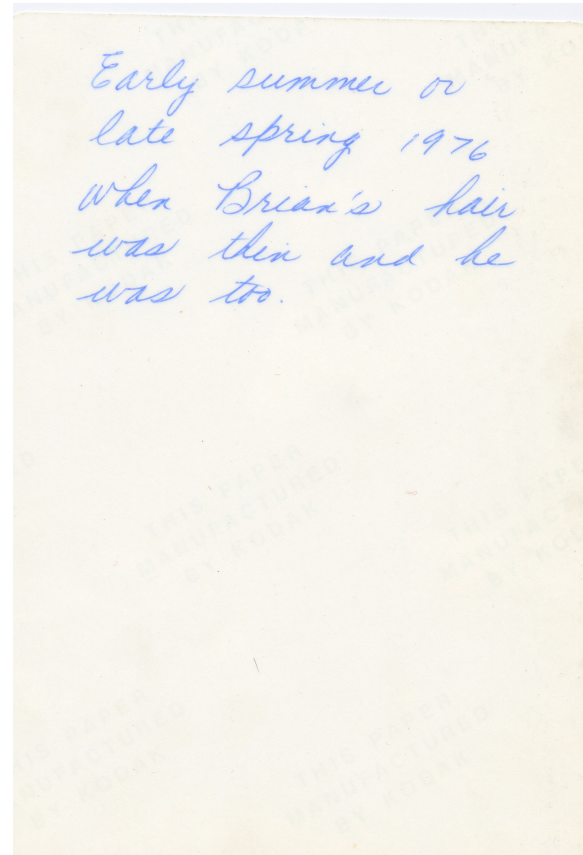


My “Last Lecture”

- The End of the Semester
- Surmised End of my Teaching at the University of Utah



Why do I do this? Obviously not for the fame!



Carl Durney

**Treat the people
working for you with
kindness and dignity.**

Professor of Electrical
Engineering and
Bioengineering
University of Utah

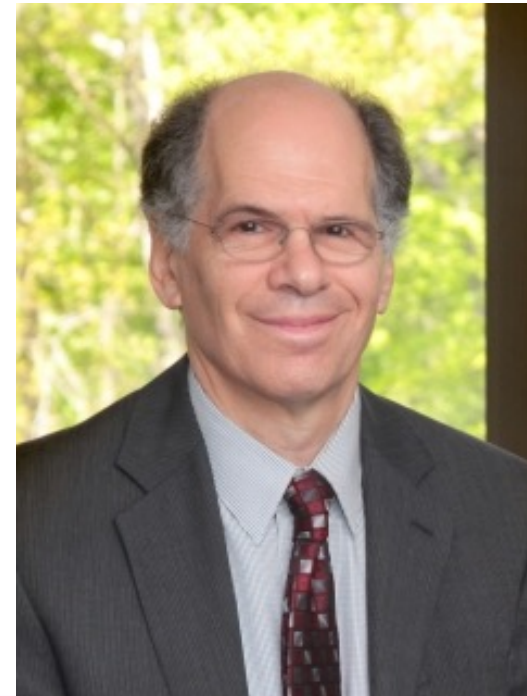


Stewart Prager

Don't worry about your grades!

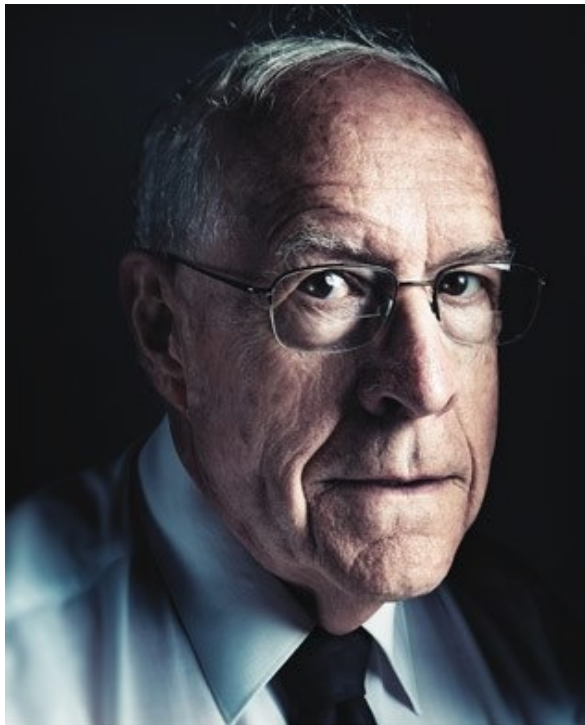
“People are going to judge you based on your dissertation/research, not your grades. Classes are to help you, not justify you.”

Director Emeritus
Princeton Plasma
Physics Laboratory



Fred Brooks

Professor of Computer Science
UNC, Chapel Hill



Don't obsess over your titles!

"[W]e shall be respected for our accomplishments, not our titles." ("Computer Scientist as Toolsmith")

Freeman Dyson...

...one of the most important physicists of the 20th Century didn't have a doctorate



Bruce Buchanan...



...was “only” an adjunct professor at Stanford

Paul Terry

Professor of Physics
UW, Madison



Pick the teacher not the topic!

“You will learn more from a good teacher repeating a topic, than taking a new topic from a bad teacher!”

Push against the curricula policy!

Peter Alfeld

Learning is slow, be patient with yourself!

“Don’t expect to understand a topic from just one class. You have to use it in work or take a second class to really understand a topic.”

Professor of Mathematics
University of Utah



Alfred North Whitehead

Logician, Mathematician,
Philosopher



Run with your unique background!

“Novel ideas are more apt to spring from **an unusual assortment of knowledge**—not necessarily from vast knowledge, but from a thorough conception of the methods and ideas of distinct lines of thought.”

Daniel Boorstin

Librarian of Congress



Beware of the fallacies plaguing academics

The Bureaucratic Fallacy: Nothing can be done for the first time.

The Professional Fallacy: Society exists for the sake of the profession.



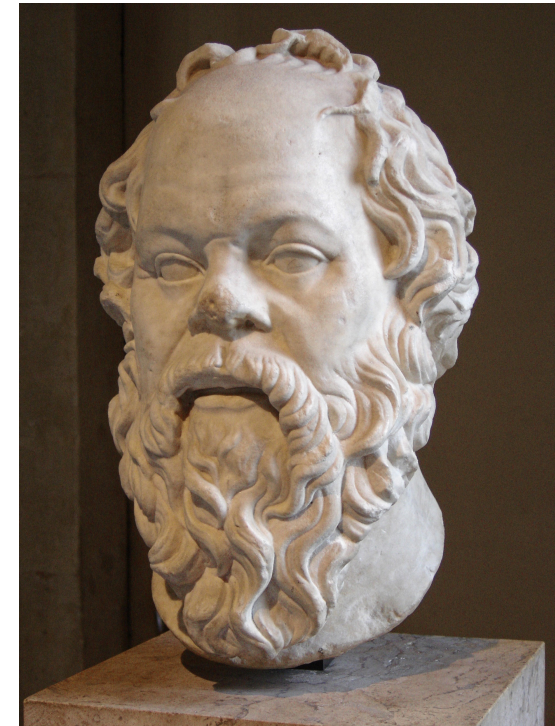
Avoid Arrogance!

‘There's a persistent phenomenon in academia, known as Sayre's law, which in one version goes, **“academic politics are so vicious precisely because the stakes are so small.”** (The Atlantic)

Avoid Arrogance!

“Well, although I do not suppose that either of us knows anything really beautiful and good, I am better off than he is, —...”

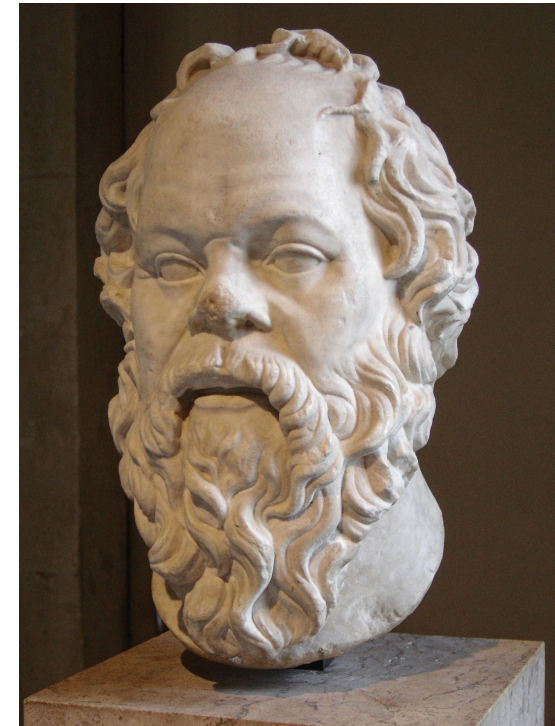
Divinely appointed gadfly



Socrates

“...for he knows nothing, and thinks that he knows; I neither know nor think that I know. In this latter particular, then, I seem to have slightly the advantage of him.”

Divinely appointed gadfly





“The world’s a mess...”

Healthcare is a mess!

Which means there is a lot of work (employment) for you

Mary Moody Emerson

**“Always do what you are
afraid to do.”**

Aunt of Ralph Waldo Emerson



Apsley Cherry-Garrard

**Do what you are afraid
to do!**

“If you are a brave man you
will do nothing: if you are
fearful you may do much, for
**none but cowards have need
to prove their bravery.**”

Antarctic explorer

