

## ATP #2042

Announcer: The University of Detroit Mercy presents another brand new episode of Ask The Professor. Today's program was recorded using Zoom video conferencing technology.

Matt: The University tower chimes ring another session of Ask The Professor, the show in which you match wits with University of Detroit Mercy professors in another session of questions and answers. I'm your host Matt Mio, and let me introduce to you our panel for today. Always in the upper left on my zoom. It's Professor Mara Livezey.

Mara: Yes, it's me.

Matt: How's it going Mara

Mara: Today's a good day. It's beautiful out, and I'm officially done writing every letter of recommendation I've been asked for.

Matt: Wow, that is a big, big deal. And I knew that you were going to mention the weather because it essentially looks very fall-like for the next few days and you and I both know that's the best kind of weather that you can have.

Mara: It is.

Matt: We have Professor Dan Maggio here with us today. He's not going to be camping out to get a haircut next week.

Dan: I'm not. I thought about it, but I am determined to get one, but I'm not going to do stupid things

Beth: Yeah, your hair is really out of control Dan y'know.

Dan: It is! You should see me in the morning. It's out of control. But y'know what, everybody else's is too. If you got a haircut and you cheated, you can't hide it.

Matt: No, it's true. It's true. Well apparently someone just came home. So, when the door in my house slams relatively loudly, I would guess there was a good chance Professor Dave Chow could hear it! How's it going Dave?

Dave: Not too bad. No complaints. Just got done grocery shopping and back for this.

Matt: Mhm, and be sure to let everybody know what you told us when we first logged in. I said, How did the birthday festivities go and you said....

Dave: Day old spaghetti, cold! No actually it's strange because this is the first year I usually go to Canada for my birthday and I think about it. This the first time the border has been locked down over here.

Matt: That's right. That's right.

Dave: So it's strange.

Matt: For at least another month or so right so?

Dave: Mmhm! Yep. So Matt you're not getting any pork buns anytime soon I hope you can hold out.

Matt: I have to learn how to make em myself.

Beth: Other countries are hoping we will keep President Trump behind our locked borders.

Matt: Those of course being the dulcet tones of Professor Beth Ojar.

Beth: Hey, good to be here!

Matt: So you're angling for a haircut to!

Beth: Uh, yeah, I actually needed one probably before everything shut down and wasn't smart enough to get that done. So now I either really need one or shut off a video on collaborate as my students look at a blank screen with my name in it.

Matt: I completely understand. I've run into a few people, now you're added to the list, who start this kind of a conversation by saying, "Actually, the very first day we were sent home, I actually had an appointment or something like that!" So it's been even longer for you, relatively speaking.

Beth: I'm not in expensive salons of many sorts so as soon as someplace that takes walk in appointments is open I'll be there!

Matt: Right, sounds about right. I'm not sure whether to ask him about hair or not, Professor Prasad Venugopal is here with us today.

Prasad: It's getting long isn't it.

Matt: Yes.

Prasad: Only from the front. But the back it's...

Matt: So how does your hair look by comparison?

Prasad: In the back and I hate saying this...At the back, I'm already like dan lander, so. It's continuing to grow my idea is not to get a haircut. My idea is to get color in my hair, and so I'm still holding out for that. Though, my wife has set me up to go get a haircut somewhere on Livernois. So that will happen sometime soon.

Dave: What is this, is this one of those legal places or illegal places?

Prasad: I mean I wish it were an illegal place. It's very very legal. In fact, it's like a hair spa or something like that which for somebody who prefers a \$2 haircut, and would get it in India, if I were there now? That's about my standard.

Matt: \*laughs\* That's your standard!

Prasad: Yeah.

Matt: Well, we are all so blessed to have guest panelists with us here today. Professor, Jacob Kagey is here from the Department of Biology. It's good to have you back Jacob. Did you say seven years? Eight years?

Jacob: It's been a while. I feel like this is like the ongoing Jimmy Kimmel Matt Damon thing, but it's a lot more fun just to keep my face deep if you're going alive but I figured that if a worldwide pandemic can't bring us together than nothing...

Matt: Then what could. I don't even want to know who's Jimmy Kimmel and who is Matt Damon in this equation.

Jacob: People can't tell us apart anyway so

Posahd: It is true you guys do look alike. A lot more these days.

Matt: The next thing that will happen is that Jacob will only start speaking like this: "Matt, Damon" Team America!

Beth: Team America world police? Yeah.

Matt: Well folks, this is a program where you can send us questions regarding anything. If you stump the panel you win a prize. You can send us questions in a number of ways, you can email us at [atp@udmercy.edu](mailto:atp@udmercy.edu), reach us on the web at [udmercy.edu/atp](http://udmercy.edu/atp), find us on Facebook, or you can listen on your favorite smart speaker by saying

play Ask the Professor at University of Detroit Mercy. We have a wonderful set of questions here always with really great background sent into us by longtime question sender. Kimberly Richards of Van Nuys, California. And let's see what we can do. To say that Kimberly sends us stuff all over the map is being generous, this is a quite a popery. "What political party did George Washington belong to?"

Prasad: The Whigs? Well you know I would have said Whig if you would ask me, you know this question point blank but that's not what it says here,

Prasad: Not the Republican and Democrats that came later.

Beth: Well, there were. I mean, there were Federalists and then there were Jeffersonian Republicans.

Mara: Smaller Democrats and Republicans. Yeah.

Matt: You know what it says here is, at least according to this question. George Washington was the only US president in history not to be really affiliated with any party in fact in his farewell address. He warned the country not to divide into political parties.

Dave: Smart man!

Beth: Yeah!

Mara: Should've listened.

Matt: Kymberleigh. I probably don't need to say this, but that advice was completely ignored!

Beth: Well, I think Madison thought that the heterogeneity of the country would mean that you would basically have a bunch of minority groups that there would have to be such, there would be such shifting alliances and Coalition's, it would be difficult for any one group to really get power certainly and certainly to retain it independently of all the rests but I think he underestimated the influence of money. So.

Matt: In the same vein, but not exactly. "Previously holding the position as president of Princeton University, which president at the time he took over the United States of America as the executive..."

Beth: Woodrow Wilson.

Matt: Yeah, was also nicknamed the professor! Yeah it was Woodrow Wilson. Absolutely.

Prasad: It's why so many incentives (NS) are named after him.

Beth: Yeah in the whitehouse, was really one of our more proud moments I think.

Matt: It says Wilson had crafted the Versailles treaty 14 points. The last of which was creating the League of Nations which, of course is the

precursor to the UN, so often ranked by historians as one of our nation's greatest.

Beth: One of our greatest presidents?

Matt: That's what it says here.

Beth: Oh ok.

Matt: "Which President is mentioned by name in a famous sitcom theme song?" This is a good one.

Dave: Ooh, sitcom. So, something like Frasier?

Prasad: Must be the Big Bang Theory, because there's lots of stuff mentioned in it.

Matt: That's not what it says here but I think most of that stuff is kind of sciency stuff personally.

Beth: The President is mentioned in the theme song for the show.

Matt: Right, so I'm not telling you the name of the theme song, the song itself, the name of the show, but a president's name and American sitcom theme song.

Michael: All in the Family.

Matt: Yes, it's All in the Family! Way to go Michael!

Michael: Herbert Hoover.



Matt: That's right, Mr. We could use a man like Herbert Hoover.

Dan: Oh, yes. Nice one, Michael.

Prasad: That was nice.

Dave: The voice of God!

Beth: It's when people are lifting cardboard boxes of course you know we could always use those again.

Matt: Yeah, what were they, Hoovervilles? Yeah, I'm looking, by the way at Jacob and Beth in particular. If you enjoy watching a box that's muted with a name in the middle suddenly spout out an answer then you can teach online.

Beth: I'd like to see these students though right? I mean if I don't require them to turn on their video so I could go a whole semester and teach students that I never see?

Matt: I mean not just that, but if you have a lot of video on not using zoom. So Blackboard, you can kind of clog the internet to put it lightly and everything gets really laggy. So you got to be careful when video was turned on. Even though I said that this is usually a hodgepodge from Kimberly, of course she's got a strong theme going here.

Beth: I'd like U.S. Presidents for 200 Alex.

Matt: Yes. "Which U.S president once gambled away the White House China in a game of poker?"

Dave: Which president had a good tell...

Beth: That's gotta be in the 19th century I'm thinking,

Dan: Gonna be a little bit older.

Matt: Uh, I'm afraid, always to guess that these years and I can hear my wife's voice, the history major from upstairs. This president is widely described as essentially one of, if not the worst president for all of American history.

Dave: Jackson.

Jacob: Jackson. Johnson, I mean.

Matt: It's not what I see here.

Beth: Who?

Matt: This president has been described as quote, "good looking, charming, but out of his depth and oddly likeable

Jacob: Coolidge

Matt: Ineptitude. It was not Coolidge.

Beth: Has to be Clinton.

Prasad: Rutherford B Hayes. I just like that name, it's a nice name.

Dave: Like Grover Cleveland right? Just for the senses right?

Prasad: Yeah, there you go.

Matt: Okay, one more clue, even though I'm not sure...

Prasad: C'mon we only got like 45 so.

Matt: We evidently agreed with these quouted assessments. "I'm a man of limited talents from a small town. I don't even seem to grasp that I am president of these United States."

Beth: Polk? Buchanan? Actually somebody already said Polk, actually. Harding? Harrison?

Matt: It says here that it was Warren G. Harding.

Beth: Ah yes. Okay. He also impregnated someone in the White House and I think it later became a republican colloquium or something and they still couldn't make notice of that fact.

Matt: Wow.

Jacob: Wasn't very republican.

Beth: He got a mistress right?

Dan: Is there a plaque there now?

Beth: Probably.

Dave: Slept here and then some.

Prasad: Where the China used to be.

Matt: Okay, "which University", let's be serious here, we're talking about undergrad grad school law school, "can claim the most US presidents, as alums?"

Dave: Harvard, Yale?

Matt: It's Harvard, Yeah. The first president to hold a college degree who was John Adams graduated from Harvard, as did his son and sixth president John Q. Teddy. Roosevelt, FDR, JFK also got undergrad degrees. Several other presidents attended the University for graduate school. Rutherford B. Hayes, Barack Obama were in their law degrees and George W. graduated from the business school. So that's that's quite a list, quite a list.

Beth: Now Obama was under law review when he was there.

Matt: "What President of the United States lived at 93 years 166 days the absolute longest?"

Dave: Wait a minute, isn't Jimmy Carter?

Dan: Is that Bush? Bush Senior?

Matt: It says Bush Senior. It says H.W. Bush 93, 166...

Dan: So how old is Jimmy? Jimmy Carter?

Matt: I would say that he's older. It says, so H.W. Bush beat the previous record held by Ford, who is oh my gosh, 93 and 165 days when he passed, Jerry Ford. At the time of his death in 2018 Bush was essentially 94 164.

Prasad: The all-knowing Google.

Dan: Yeah, that's what Google tells us. Jimmy Carter has beaten the record yet?

Mara: 95.

Jacob: So you know, it's close.

Prasad: I think Kimberly owes us a mug!

Matt: I think so too! Yes. Yeah, so it says at the end that Carter is the oldest living and has less than 100 days to beat H.W so there you go. June 12 1924, just something about, oh! Whoa, that's today's date. That's pretty cool. So Happy Birthday President Carter.

Dan: Oh.

Beth: So today's his birthday.

Matt: He's 96.

Prasad: No no no Carter was born on October 1! No, wrong person.

Dan: Jimmy Carter?

Matt: Nobody knows where Jimmy Carter is right now anyway he's doing habitat pretty badly.

Dan: He's in Georgia at his home in small town Georgia.

Jacob: Professor

Matt: There you go. There you go. Okay. Somebody measured it, and now you get to guess it. "How many gallons of paint does it take to cover in one coat the exterior of the White House?"

Beth: This is in gallons?

Mara: 100

Matt: It is more than 100

Dave: 7000!

Dan: 1300.

Matt: It's not 1300 that's quite a bit too high.

Dan: Well if put a double coat on. One thick coat.

Dave: Popcorn spagckle!

Dan: 492

Prasad: 418.

Beth: 250.

Dave: Where's Kendra?!

Matt: A lot of you are at this right order of magnitude and Heather always makes fun of me for saying that's close enough. It's up 570 gallons. The major painting of the White House was in what year?

Dave: Right now it's getting whitewashed. Oh.

Dan: Well my guess is, they paint every seven, seven to 10 years so when I'm gonna say 2012.

Matt: You know, at least according to these questions, it was 1989. The stripping when they stripped they found a minimum of 40 layers of paint.

Dan: That's 30 years that it's been without a...That's impossible, there are houses on my block that have seven years need a paint job. It was just useful quality pain.

Prasad: I have a quibble as a scientist, you did not indicate whether it was US gallons or British gallons.

Matt: Ah, very good point. Very good point. I also think the current president probably put aluminum siding on too so.

Beth: Oh no he's built himself a wall and the people get over and decorated it, which is great. So all the fencing Trump put up so he could be, you know, serene and secure in the White House, people have put up all kinds of signs about Black Lives Matter everything else. I mean, really, you know, so much for the people's house, which it is supposed to be.

Matt: I can't help but not let this go by without mentioning that one of my favorite internet bits for the last couple weeks is that one weird night, when all the lights went out at the White House and of course everybody noticed my Halloween buddies, put, "we'll be opening soon!" Spirit Halloween store like posters on the White House, so that was cute. "How many rooms are there in the White House?"

Jacob: 234.

Matt: Too high, too high.

Dave: 135.

Beth: Are they asking about the residents that are including the West Wing? I mean, the white. The phrase 'White House' is actually kind of ambiguous.

Matt: That is true but I think I just heard 135, it's 132 is what it says here 132.



Dave: I was just counting the bunker, that's all.

Matt: Oh my gosh, so that total includes the official residence of the First Family which is: 25 bedrooms. Three dining rooms, three kitchens, but only one library. Six stories are based on what you can see versus what's underground,

Dave: Wait a minute, who designed, this Mike Brady?

Beth: That's one bathroom for eight people!

Matt: Okay. "Polar Ohio September 23 1838, who was the first woman to run for the presidency of the United States?"

Dave: Oh! Jim would know this! Aww, what was her name...

Matt: Her journal that she published would gain notoriety is the first to publish, Karl Marx's Communist Manifesto in English.

Beth: Was it Emma Goldman? No, no.

Matt: That's not what it says here.

Dave: Y'know Jim had mentioned this to us, before she actually wasn't. She ran for office, even though they couldn't vote yet.

Matt: That's right. She established the Equal Rights party and ran for the presidency so she was born in 1830, she ran in 1872 pre suffrage.

Beth: Was it one of the Grumkee sisters (NS)

Matt: No it says here that the initials were V,W.

Dave: Victoria....

Matt: Partial credit! It says here it was Victoria Woodhall was her name. She was the creator, editor and author of Woodhall and Claflin weekly newsletter.

Dave: Okay.

Matt: I put point five because Victoria.

Dave: I am sorry my subscription to that paper lapsed. That's all.

Matt: "Which US president purportedly proposed to his wife at their first date?"

Jacob: Wilson?

Matt: No, but Wilson's a good answer to pretty much all of these.

Dan: I'm going with Carter.

Prasad: Rutherford B. Hayes? Nixon?

Matt: Yeah, it was a Dick Nixon, at age 25 it says here Nixon auditioned for a community theater production, where he met Thelma at Ryan a schoolteacher. He proposed to her on their first date and she laughed him off. Yes.

Mara: Yeah.

Prasad: Laughing him off.

Dan: Yeah. She forgot about that I guess later on.

Matt: I have to point out that we had a very interesting discussion at the Mio family dinner table a few weeks ago. One of my kids asked me as if it was like some Simpsons bit, "Dad, what's Watergate?" So I explained it to them. And then he goes, "Okay, I want to make sure I get the story, the President was so shamed that he resigned before anything could be brought against him, because they bugged a hotel room?" And I go yes and they still processing. So, wait for tomorrow! Then I get up from the table and I leave.

Beth: Yeah, it was the cover up to breaking in.

Matt: Yeah, but it was just...

Beth: It was the problem but yeah yeah.

Matt: Those baby years Beth, it seemed pretty tame compared to daily life. Yeah.

Prasad: I have to admit there was a lot more work to do that in the 70s than it would be today.

Jacob: It's just a lot more work to bug out a hotel room,

Matt: It's true, like tape recorders were the size of like a human being back then. "Who was the first U.S first lady who got married in the White House?"

Beth: Wilson's second wife?

Math: It wasn't Woodrow Wilson. I mean, that would have been that Wilson wasn't the first lady also but you get the idea!

Jacob: Was it uh, Q. Adams wife?

Matt: No, and it wasn't A's wife either Prasad.

Prasad: How about Millard Fillmore. That's my other guy.

Matt: My other guy being names I like to say?

Prasad: That's right. Absolutely!

Dave: Sounds good, keep on using that till he gets it. Ya know, till he finds a question for it, right?

Prasad: Yeah. The problem is not with the answer, the problem is that the question has shown up!

Matt: How about some clues?

Beth: She was married in the White House?

Matt: Right, so she would have gotten married while her husband was already president. She was her big claim to fame. My wife is a big First Lady historian, is that she was the youngest First Lady by age ever.

Beth: Jackie Kennedy?

Prasad: That is a good guess I like that guess.

Matt: Good guess.

Dave: Like Dolly Madison?

Matt: She was the 22nd First Lady, until her husband's defeat in 1888.

Beth: Well actually Rutherford B. Hayes is about the right time.

Matt: And just to complete the easy set of clues here. They're not easy I get that, she also was the 24th First Lady of the United States.

Beth: Oh no, the guy, Garfield is that it?

Dave: Cleveland!

Dan: Oh, Cleveland.

Matt: Francis Cleveland.

Prasad: Ah, you got yours, Dave, you got yours.

Dave: No, I don't have a horse in the race, so I mean I'm...

Beth: Grover's wife.

Matt: Right. Grover Cleveland's wife. He was advanced in age when he married her but she, her claim to fame aside from being youngest First Lady ever was, she was doing two full scale black tie ballgown parties a week for the entirety of his first term, so she was hot. I know on the other side of that coin, "which First Lady banned, dancing, and card playing in the walls of the White House?" Definitely not...(NS)

Prasad: Gotta be somebody really religious.

Dave: Okay let's see who was it...

Beth: Was it Mary Lincoln?

Matt: Nope. She was a devout Presbyterian and served as first lady from 1845 to 1849.

Dave: Like I said, where's Jim.

Matt: She forbade her husband, as a Presbyterian, from doing any official business on a Sunday.

Beth: Is this Taylor, Tyler one of those tea guys?

Jacob: Ah, I should know...

Matt: Her folksy tale, if I remember this correctly from my wife, is she famously turned away a surprise visit from a high ranking us, Australian official who came to meet the President on the Sunday morning.

Prasad: Oh we are not up on our presidents.

Matt: So the initials of the President would be JP.

Dan: Polk?

Matt: Polk.

Beth: I said Polk! Why is nobody getting my answer? I'm not getting credit for anything.

Matt: I'm very sorry Beth. I'm sorry.

Beth: You are just a terrible human being.

Dave: Look! I asked for Jim Tubbs and there's Jim Tubbs!

Matt: Really! He just like appeared out of nowhere!

Prasad: Yeah, but he's late! We needed him, what, 10 minutes ago,

Dave: We needed him like during Polk!

Jacob: Yeah!

Dave: Hold on. We're.

Jacob: Alright, we're gonna make this a fair trade so I wish you all the best of luck. Have to go on to the next one, but I'll see you all again in eight years.

Mara: See you in eight years.

Dan: See you Jacob!

Matt: So we're glad to have you here Jim, but I'm looking at my timer and we literally have 30 seconds left!

Jim: Oh, okay.

Dave: He still goes in the sat sheet he still counts.

Matt: It's okay. It's okay.

Prasad: I think I just need to ask him one question from that president's list maybe that last one.

Matt: Which first lady banned dancing and card playing inside the White House Jim?

Jim: Was it...No, it wasn't Grover Cleveland, who was the one after him...Chester Arthur's wife?

Matt: Nope.

Prasad: Wasn't Rutherford B. Hayes either. Or Millard Fillmore.

Jim: Couldn't have been Florence Harding or Nellie Taft or Grace Coolidge...

Prasad: So now he's just showing off with all the wrong answers!

Jim: I think it was in the 1880s wasn't it?



Matt: This was in the 1840s.

Jim: Oh, 1840s! Oh. Hm.

Beth: Think 54, 40, or fight.

Prasad: Y'know what, this makes me feel a lot better because if he didn't get it, what hope did I ever have.

Matt: Well Beth didn't actually get it so.

Prasad: But we're not really giving the credit for it so.

\*laughter\*

Beth: 80's was an obvious clue too!

Matt: Jim It was a there was another famous Jim, it was James Polk's wife, Sarah.

Jim: Oh, James K. Polk, okay. Always thinking there was a teetotaler in the 80s though.

Dave: I thought Dolly Madison or who was that one?

jim: She was no teetotaler.

Dave: No, but there's somebody else that banned like wasn't that Christmas trees or something like that? Was it something like that?

Matt: Yeah, I've heard this before.

Jim: No. Edith Roosevelt did not.

Matt: Unfortunately, now that we're reminiscing about presidents and First Ladies and what have you, the time has come for us to say goodbye so Professor Tubbs.

Jim: Goodbye! And hello!

\*laughter\*

Matt: Jacob!

Jacob: Goodbye. I'll see you.

Matt: Professor Oljar.

Beth: Bye.

Matt: Professor Chow.

Dave: See ya!

Matt: Professor Maggio!

Dan: Bye!

Matt: Professor Livezey.

Mara: Goodbye.

Matt: And now these words...

Announcer: You can email Ask the professor at [atp@udmercy.edu](mailto:atp@udmercy.edu), or visit the Ask the Professor Facebook page.

Matt: Ask the Professor is transcribed from lots of different places that are not the Briggs building. Ask the Professor is produced and directed by Michael Jayson and Brian Maisonville, and our executive producer is Professor Jason Roche. Until next week, I'm your host, Matt Mio.