Ask the Professor #2043

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 in another session of Ask The Professor! The show on which you match wits with University of Detroit Mercy professors in an unrehearsed session of questions and answers. I'm your host Matt Mio, and let me introduce to you our panel for today. To my lower right, it's Professor Jim Tubbs.

Jim: Hello hello!

Matt: Hello hello. And what did you think about the walking deadness of returning to campus today Jim?

Jim: Well, it really did look pretty dead. I mean I saw one public safety officer walking around him and that was it!

Matt: Yeah, that sounds about right. Um, you know, campus, actually considering all that, looks very manicured, do you know what I mean? Like it's pretty, you know...

Jim: Everything's neat and the shrubs are trimmed and stuff. It looks good!

Matt: I mean, we didn't have to show it off for commencement this year - a tear - but it looks like it's kept up pretty well, considering.

Jim: Yeah.

Matt: Turning around here on the big grid of pictures, I see Professor Beth Oljar is here with us today.

Beth: Hey! Good to be here!

Matt: Hey, what's shakin.

Beth: I had my first trip to campus, since December last year. A couple of weeks ago was the first time I've been in my office since December

Matt: Unbelievable. Continuing around the horn here, Professor Dave Chow is with us today.

Dave: Pleasure to be here, as always.

Matt: Excellent. What's going on, Dave.

Dave: Just another day. It just reminded me when Beth was talking about falling ceiling tile, that once happened to my office at CCS. But I also had, I think it was one of the air conditioning units too. So I had like 120 gallons of water dropping on my desk too.

Matt: Woah!

Dave: Books, paper, computer. I came back from break and it wasn't pretty.

Matt: Oh no...

Jim: Gotta count your blessings.

Dave: Whoo, I know.

Yeah, of course, it happened during a break to not like less than 24 hour window. Either way, still treasure never wanted to happen to anyone.

So, Professor Dan Maggio is here with us today. Hey Dan,

Dan: Matt. How are ya!?

Matt: Pretty good, how are you?

Dan: I'm good. The one thing I will never forget as a student, is being able to smoke in the classrooms,

Matt: Of course.

Dan: Being in an English class with not only the teacher smoking, but about five students smoking, in Briggs 248, which is a teeny little room with six people smoking in class.

Beth That was not allowed when I was an undergraduate, I like to believe that you weren't able to do that either.

Dan: To think back, it's really shocking that that was even allowed.

Jim: It was allowed when I was an undergraduate. The dinosaurs just

didn't matter.

laughter

Matt: I know I've said it several times since we've recorded Dan, but

you remember when I had you for Calc. 3, that you'd be in the middle

of drawing some super complex partial integral and you'd be like,

"Well, I'm leaving!" And then you would just leave the room, have your

break, smoke break on the outside and then you would come back.

Your chalk would go right back to where you were and then you would

continue.

Dan: Just to let the audience know, I have quit, and it's been 11 plus

years.

Matt: Wow, wow!

Jim: Good for you.

Mara: Congratulations.

Dan: I think about every once in a while. What I want to know from ex

smokers is when they dream are they smoking in their dreams?

Jim: I'm not.

Dan: Because I don't know that I've had a dream where I've smoked in

my dream.

Matt: Beth is very enthusiastic about this.

Dan: She's like, "Yes! I am!"

Beth: Yeah!

Matt: It reminds me, if you don't mind the heavy-handed analogy, but I

had a buddy who studied French in high school and spent the whole

summer living with a Quebec Quoi family. And when I saw him at the

end of four months I go, "how was it?" and he goes, "well, I'm dreaming

in French. I got that going for me." I was like, whoa, that's a big step but

you know cognitively speaking.

Dan: Yes.

Matt: Professor Mara Livezey is here with us today.

Mara: Hello.

Matt: So you had a low humidity run this morning I would guess.

Mara: Very low humidity, very nice compared to some of the other

days this week.

Matt: A couple days ago it was just gross. Just absolutely gross.

Mara: Absolutely gross. And I'll be the first to say actually compared to some of you who could smoke in your classrooms. Vaping came to be while I was an undergrad, and it took very little time for girls to come out to prevent students from vaping in classrooms.

Matt: Like I would say, less than a total semester?

Mara: Yes,

Beth: I can do that while I teach this fall, that'll be an advantage! Sweet!

Matt: There you go.

Dave: Thing is we also have oil painters in our classes smoking too. And I was like two big flammables all in one room!

Matt: Well folks, this is a program you can send us questions regarding anything. If you stump the panel you win a prize, you don't stump the panel you could pick up a prize then too. You can send the questions to us in a number of ways. You can email us at atp@udmercy.edu, you can reach us on the web at udmercy.edu/atp, or you can find us on Facebook or listen on your favorite smart speaker by asking it to play Ask the Professor at University of Detroit Mercy. When last we left the superfriends, we were handling some very interesting presidential questions from Kymberly Richards, so we'll continue with those. At least we have a finite set of possible correct responses here. "Only one

president so far," this goes all the way to Trump, "was sworn in by a woman. Which President was that?"

Jim: Lyndon Johnson.

Matt: It was LBJ yes!

Jim: Sarah Hughes.

Matt: Sarah Hughes, yes. Following the assassination of...

Jim: John F. Kennedy.

Matt: November 22 1963. On Air Force One.

Dan: What was her role? What was her title?

Jim: She was a district court judge in Dallas, and LBJ knew her and so asked that she'd be brought there. And he put his hand on the Bible that had come from this presidential stable room. It was John F. Kennedy's Bible he put his hand on to take and it's disappeared. Nobody knows what happened to it.

Beth: Jaquis was just standing there...

Jim: Yeah, dazed and confused.

Beth: How she got through that day, or the subsequent days that Canada pageant.

Jim: It's remarkable what a psychological sab she managed to provide during that weekend though. I mean as a kid I just marveled at that.

Particularly the walking. I just thought it was amazing.

Beth: You know, Bryan Cranston did a really good movie on HBO called "All the Way" where he played LBJ, and it's about the Voting Rights Act, I think,

Matt: Right. That's right.

Matt: He was really really good. His portrayal of LBJ was fabulous.

Matt: I mean, he could pretty much play anybody at this point. He's a pretty dang good actor

Beth: If it weren't for Vietnam, we'd remember LBJ as one of our best presidents, I think.

Jim: And he really had a nose-to-nose showdown with my grandmother's cousin Dick Russell from Georgia.

Beth: Ahhh yes! Yeah! Franklin played (NS) in the movie, Joe.

Jim: Yeap!

Beth: Plays Dick Russell.

Dave: Wow.

Matt: "Who's the only person ever to take the oath of office, but also administer the oath of office?"

Beth: Taft.

Jim: Taft, yeah.

Matt: William Howard Taft, our 27th President, fulfilled a lifelong dream when he was appointed Chief Justice to the Supreme Court, becoming the only person who served as both. Of course in 1925, Chief Justice Taft swore in President Calvin Coolidge 12 years after Taft himself had arrived as President. Along with this is great by the way and I think I remember this one it's a good piece of American trivia, along with all of those firsts, Taft was also the last American president to have this...

Jim: A giant size bathtub.

Dave: A Blockbuster card!

Jim: Yeah, when he trimmed down to 300...was a thing for the horses when he took a ride I

Dave: Can you even imagine how many Secret Service it took to surround him I mean,

Jim: I've seen a picture of the bathtub that had to be designed to go into the White House for him to bathe, with four workmen sitting in it.

Matt: That's right.

Beth: Wow

Matt: "Which US President delivered the shortest inaugural dress as

measured by number of words?"

Beth: Lincoln?

Matt: Nope.

Jim: Let me think....shortest.

Beth: I think you guys wanna turn in -

Matt: I think so, I'll give you a little bit of comparison here. They claimed the longest Inaugural Address, 8445 words came from William Henry Harrison, who infamously of course caught pneumonia after delivering that speech...

Dave: They killed 'em!

Matt: And died a few days later, so that's good for him. This speech, the

shortest, 130 words.

Jim: Let's see.

Matt: And Beth is correct, one of the early guys but who was it?

Dan: Adams, Madison? Washington?

Matt: Everything's been covered here. It was Washington's second inaugural.

Jim: Oh!

Matt: I honestly think I've heard, like the verbiage before. It basically is like, what are we doing here? Get back to work.

Jim: He had nothing to add. Yes,

Dave: Back to work you slackers!

Matt: Exactly. Which US president was the only one who was sworn in by his father?

Beth: Quincy Adams.

Matt: You know, that's not what it says here.

Beth: Oh sworn in by...so this is someone who's Chief Justice of Supreme Court and then his son?

Matt: I'm doing my best to really quickly go through this. Nope, no I like the way you're trying to deduce this, but it says here. Um, let's see here. This vice president was in Vermont visiting his family home, which had no electricity at all that...

Jim: Oh that was Coolidge. Coolidge after Harding died

Matt: Right when a messenger brought word of Harding's death, his father, a notary public administered the oath of office in his family's parlor by light of a kerosene lamp.

Jim: A lamp light yes.

Dave: A parlor? Oh.

Beth: I had to calm that down earlier this week about the possibility that when Trump is defeated he's not leaving, he's refusing to leave the White House, which I think is something we know...yeah. As soon as another President takes the oath of office, and the Electoral College certifies the election, he'll be escorted out of the building by the Secret Service.

Jim: Right, then go right to the district attorney..

Beth: Oh he's headed straight for prison after he's done as President. I don't think there's any question about it, y'know all of those cases that are in abeyance because of the stupid idea about a sitting president as far as it goes.

Jim: Well I think it will be an interesting exit from the Capitol Building, for sure.

Matt: I think there's a, I'm probably gonna regret saying this on the air, but, a very good chance he would not attend the inaugural.

Beth: Oh, I'm sure.

Mara: Yeah.

Matt: But yeah, Biden's quote from the other day was pretty entertaining it's like, "I know several generals, that will dispatch him!"

Jim: Yeah!

Dave: Pierre Trudeau would do it for him!

Jim: Yeah, remove him with dispatch!

Beth: He's not going to be on his side if he wants to attempt this little coup. I think recent events have made that pretty clear.

Jim: I don't think the military is gonna support any coup.

Beth: No, no.

Matt: "Which US president had to retake the oath of office one day later because of an error during the ceremony?"

Beth: Obama. Obama did that.

Jim: Yep.

Beth: (NS) Or something like that I think, originally.

Matt: Chief Justice John Roberts said the word faithfully out of sequence. So Obama paused and smiled seemingly aware of the

mistake like a good constitutional lawyer would be, and then retook the oath the following day, out of quote, "an abundance of caution." unquote.

Mara: Oh wow.

Dan: Conspiracy theorists must have loved that.

Beth: This is what happens when you elect the editor of the Harvard Law Review.

Jim: Yeah.

Dave: Now did it change any of the intent?

Beth: No.

Dave: Or is it just protocol.

Matt: Probably just protocol.

Jim: You don't want to leave any, you know, an I un-dotted or T uncrossed when being under the circumstances.

Beth: That's why it was important for Johnson to be sworn in on the plane right, so there was absolutely no gap in the continuity.

Jim: Right.

Dave: Oh okay. All right.

Beth: Especially during the Cold War, that was a good idea.

Matt: It says that after all was said and done, "only one president while president has held an MBA. What president was that?"

Jim: Hoover?

Beth: W. Didn't W. get an MBA from Harvard?

Matt: Yeah it was W. Bush. That's right! He got it from Yale in 1968. It says after his guard duty, Bush continued his education enrolling at Harvard Business School, where he got the MBA in 1975. Trump ,for the record claims to hold an MBA from the Wharton School of Finance, but actually graduated in 1968 with a BS in economics, only.

Dave: Oh he got bs alright.

Mara: Plenty of that.

Jim: He went to the Wharton School but not for the MBA.

Matt: Right, exactly.

Beth: And he didn't get a degree from there?

Jim: Got a bachelor's degree there.

Beth: Oh, okay.

Matt: Didn't get an MBA from there. Yeah. Wow. Kymberleigh, I gotta say we're very much looking forward to you joining us in a couple

weeks on the air here. These questions have been great. We have one more to go, so thanks again for sending them in.

Jim: Yes, thanks!

Matt: "Which US president was the head cheerleader at his high school?

Beth: Gerald Ford.

Matt: Let's see...I'm sorry, I'm not reading fast enough and that's my problem here. Let's see. Oh well you know Kimberly always has this great background information. No, you know, it says here that it was George W Bush.

Mara: That's what I was gonna say, for some reason,

Jim: That's what I was gonna say too. I thought it was in college, though I didn't realize it was high school.

Matt: Yeah, it was high school. Other famous male cheerleaders from celebrity, by the way include Jack Lemmon, Jimmy Stewart, Michael Douglas, Steve Martin, and of course Samuel L. Jackson himself.

Dave: I can only imagine the cheers.

Matt: Academy High School in Andover, Massachusetts. George W Bush head cheerleader. Thanks again Kimberly. Hey you know what? We got

a single question, submitted from our question thing online. This should be interesting. It was submitted by your colleague in mind, Mary Catherine Harrison of our Department of English at Detroit Mercy.

"What is an aglet?"

Jim: Oh it's the little thing on the end of a shoelace! It's hard.

Matt: That's right.

Beth: It basically enables you to lace your shoes.

Matt: That is exactly correct. I love how she doesn't sign the email! It's just the question, boom, you know, done. We're all set here. Very, very funny.

Announcer: And Matt, The cartoon characters, Phineas and Ferb, sing a whole song about the aglet.

Matt: Awesome, awesome. I gotta say that you guys aren't gonna like to hear this but my youngest, Emmett, who just turned eight a few weeks ago, I don't know if he's ever in his entire life had tie shoes. They've all been Velcro, which let's be serious. When you're sending someone to preschool and kindergarten...

Beth: Not a bad idea.

Mara: Makes sense.

Jim: Well then when you hit 80 they become useful again.

Mara: That's right!

Matt: Got it!

Announcer: You're listening to a special edition of Ask The Professor, in which each of the six professors participating in this recording session, were connecting to each other from different locations, thanks to zoom video conferencing technology. We're grateful to those listeners who submitted questions for today's show, and we welcome your questions at atp@udmercy.edu. Now, let's return to our host Matt Mio, with more questions.

Matt: A small set of questions here from Kathy Riley from Glendale, California. And she sent in some questions regarding, "Can you name the product or company that this jingle is from?" And Jingle means there's gonna be some kind of music but I can't synthesize the music SO-

Jim: Oh just sing it Matt!

Mara: You can sing it for us. It's fine.

Matt: There's some that I can, you know do and some that are going to be a little tougher because of my age. But I'll do what I can.

Dave: What, is it out of your vocal range?

Matt: It's, it could, it could be, it could be! How about a little dab will do ya?

Jim: Brylcreem!

Matt: Brylcreem! Yes!

Jim: 'A little dab will do ya, they love to get their little fingers in your hair!'

Dave: Could use some right about now.

Matt: There you go! Actually, that sounds like something I could have tried.

Beth: What do you think about George Clooney and, 'oh Brother, Where Art Thou?' I'm a dapper dan!

Matt: Dapper Dan!

Mara: Yes.

Dave: What product did he use?

Beth: Dapper Dan that was the product.

Matt: Absolutely.

Dave: Or you could talk to Prasad. I'm sure he's got some Indian voodoo cream too. Remember?

Beth: from the 1.25 cent haircut, that's probably it. In Bangalore.

Dan: Good to the last drop, Folgers?

Jim: No, Maxwell House

Dan: I had the right type of drink

Jim: Alright, what's next Matthew?

Matt: How about it takes a licking but keeps on ticking?

Jim, Dan, and Mara: Timex.

Dave: Duracell!

Matt: Timex.

Dave: Oh Timex, my bad! John Cameron Swayze right?

Jim: Yep!

Dave: What was his claim to fame besides those commercials?

Beth: He did the Samsonite commercials I thought

Jim: He did, well he did the Timex commercials for sure.

Dave: Well what did he do prior to then, I mean. No offense. I mean...

Beth: I think he's like Zsa Zsa Gabor, famous for being famous.

Jim: I think he did documentaries at one time.

Dave: Okay,

Matt: How about "when it absolutely positively has to be there overnight".

Everyone: FedEx.

Matt: Mm hmm. Now this is definitely one that I could sing, but I'm not going to. Reach out and touch someone.

Beth and Jim: AT&T.

Matt: AT&T. That's right, back in the day. How about, don't leave home without it?

Jim: American Express.

Dave: Okay. One of the credit cards.

Matt: Yep.

Beth: Obviously you had to spend a lot of time watching TV in the 1970s to get out, which is why Jim and I are right on the spot.

Mara: I feel like I'm at a distinct disadvantage here, since I only have seen commercials for the first half of my life.

laughter

Matt: Mara you should be able to get this one, because you wouldn't

have had to have seen a commercial. This is actually printed on the

product itself.

Dave: Oh, it's gonna print magazines what? What's a magazine?

Matt: "When it rains, it pours."

Jim: Oh, Morton Salt.

Matt: Mmhm, Morton Salt, the little salt girl.

Dan: Yes.

Beth: Iodine

Matt: Yeah yeah with, you know, get your iodine. If Prasad were here

he'd tell us about that, too. I made myself laugh when I read through

this the first time because the last one is fairly obvious. "All the news

that's fit to print?

Jim: The New York Times.

Matt: Mmhm. But I read it as the Simpsons joke because the Springfield

shopper newspaper..."all the fit, that's news to print!"

laughter

Matt: For no reason whatsoever.

Jim: I like the motto of the National Inquirer, "inquiring minds want to know."

Beht: Washington Post has the best. "Democracy dies in Darkness"

Matt: Oh that's the best. Absolutely. That is awesome.

Beth: Marty Baron is their editor in chief.

Matt: So professors, you are gonna love this. We've asked for this a few times and now it is here.

Jim: Ocean liner questions?!

Dave: Prime Ministers!

Matt: The title on the email is "No questions. Stay tuned". "Dear Matt and Profs, I'm sorry to inform you. I have no questions for you this time around, we're still working, but we've noticed that you've been having a tougher and tougher time getting from your panelists a favorite topic to discuss at the end of the show. We love your segment. As the question is open-ended we get to find out a little bit more about each prompt to help you along. I've supplied you with 15 favorites for you to use. We hope they will help and get out more great answers from the panel. Warmest regards from Valencia, California, Frank Burroughs. So this is going to be tons of fun and I think that it's already knocking it out of the park on like the first line here, this is great. Let's just do one of

these over our are great many shows, we're going to be doing here in

the future. "What was your favorite childhood toy?" Think about that

one.

Jim: Big Bruiser.

Dave: A what?!

Jim: Big Bruiser. It was a white battery-powered record truck with a red

flashing light on the top, and it would pull a pickup truck that you could

get in an accident and you can hop the fender off, you know, with a

crushed up vendor. You could replace it with a good one and a flat tire

that you could replace with a good tire. Better working winch on the

back, it was great.

Matt: Nice.

Jim: Well, it was great until my little brother got loose with a blue

permanent magic marker one time.

Dave: The pinstriping!

Jim: But it still worked!

Beth: I liked my spirograph when I was a kid.

Jim: Oh those are fun.

Beth: Yeah.

Mara: And what is that?

Beth: A spirograph is this thing that had a bunch of templates in it and

you basically could trace pictures and shapes.

Jim: Make beautiful geometric shapes, sparrow shapes I bought one for

a great nice not too long ago. I can still find them.

Beth: That's awesome

Dave: I got two, I'm not sure which one though. My duncan yoyo, or my

erector set.

Jim: Oh I loved my erector set.

Dave: Oh this is when they were still metal.

Jim: Yeah,

Dave: Yeah before the plastic ones took over. But yeah, I had one of

those. Come on, Dan what's yours?

Dan: I can't, I don't, I don't have a toy. When I was young, I worked, I

drove a bike and had pets. So I'm gonna go with the bike. The Schwinn

Continental, my bike of choice. But I don't remember, I mean I

remember playing with Big Jim camper.

Dave: Yeah?

Dan: But that wasn't really a toy. I can't remember a lot of toys. Yo yo for sure. Now that you bring that up. The best I can offer.

Beth: The Duncan Yoyo?

Dave: The butterfly? The the Imperial glow in the dark one?

Dan: Uh, it was yellow and it had a butterfly shape.

Dave: The butterfly.

Dan: Yep, which I think was pretty common so.

Matt: What about you Mara?

Mara: Uhm, maybe, so we have this set of transforming power rangers that were Power Rangers but they transformed into shapes where you can put them all together into like the mega Power Ranger. It's pretty cool.

Dave: Those are cool.

Beth: Sounds like something Matt would have said!

Dave: Come on Matt, what about you?

Matt: I mean, I have to be, you know, from the vein of a generation that every single cartoon that I watched was really just a promotion to go out and purchase something you know. So I can chart my entire childhood by starting with, and I really regret this too. I let my niece, X

number of years ago, borrow my original Empire Strikes Back
Millennium Falcon. You know, and she basically just destroyed it. And
it's like I could have just put that in a box for a few years and let it
mature, but oh well.

Dave: ...And pay for Emmett's college education, right?

Matt: But no, I was really big into, I mean, for a very long time considering, least like two years, three years into like original first generation Transformers and I had all the ones that were dyed cast. I should actually still have those and I've kept them in pretty good shape.

Dave: Does anybody here remember the Micronauts?

Matt: Oh yeah, I remember those.

Dave: Like the cast metal ones and the plastic ones? Were, absolutely articulated, yeah, those are pretty nice.

Matt: So that was pretty, pretty eye-opening there.

Dave: Is there more?

Matt: Well of course there is but we're gonna you know meet them out Dave, we don't want to...

Dave: Oh ok, alright...

Matt: Shoot the Moon here on our very first show, as a matter of fact I see we're within about 40 seconds of having to say goodbye so I'm afraid that that time has come, but this has been a ton of fun. And tell you what Frank and the Burroughs family, thanks for sending us those favorites. If anybody else wants to send us a list of favorites, it's nice to not have to worry too much about coming up with something on the fly. And I think you all are going to really enjoy going down this list open the next season.

Beth: Looking forward to doing the rest of them that'll be fun.

Jim: Yeah, they sound good. Hey, before we go, Dan, did you get a good picture of Matthew's great hairband?

Dan: I didn't take the picture, Dave did, but yes we did.

Matt: Take a picture Jim.

Mara: And mine,

Dan: And Beth's.

Jim: Ooh, Beth's got one too! Yes!

Dave: And I was telling Mara my hair just goes down the back of my shirt. Easier to keep.

Beth: Mine just falls in my eyes, which is why I had to buy the headbands and the barrets, and I'm like, I don't do girl hair anymore I shouldn't have to buy this stuff!

Matt: Oh my...Alright folks well the time, I'm afraid, has come to say goodbye. Mara.

Mara: See ya later!

Matt: Dapper Dan.

Dan: Hey, you changed my name!

Matt: Dave!

Dave: See ya!

Matt: Beth

Beth: Bye!

Matt: Jim!

Jim: Buh-bye!

Matt: And now these words...

Announcer: You can email ask the professor at atp@udmercy.edu, or visit the Ask the Professor Facebook page!

Matt: Ask the Professor is transcribed at the facilities of, frankly, our homes, all over Metro Detroit. It's 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.