

The University of Detroit Mercy presents another brand new episode of Ask The professor. Today's program was recorded using zoom video conferencing technology.

The University tower times bring 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. I see by the way that my wife is varying wildly trying to retrieve a piece of kitchenware from behind me. It's really amusing Leslie I'm sorry that's really great. Um, let me introduce to you our panel for today. To my relative left, it's Professor Mara Livezey.

Hello,

Hello Mara, How are you doing,

I am just completely overwhelmed, I gave my first remote problem set today, and I think it was just as stressful for me as it was for my students.

I'm sorry to hear that, but these are all energy hills, we need to get over sometime this semester. Absolutely.

Can I ask, Is there any hilarity that can be extracted from the stress that you underwent, was it that they were sort of bombarding you with questions in the middle of it or

actually during it wasn't that bad but it's those last five minutes where I say guys, you got to stop doing what you're doing and just focus on uploading an image for me. And I received about a million messages, none of which I can get to in time and I'm like, just do it. Just do it.

That is very overwhelming, very overwhelming, it will get better. It will Professor Heather Hill is here with us today.

Hello, One in all.

What do you feel like rooting for now, Heather,

um, all of you I feel like rooting for all

we're rooting for you to

ATP ATP.

Heather, tell us what the world is like in the world of sabbatical and,

um,

It is remarkably wonderful and excellent, given what

all of my colleagues are going through. So I'm refusing to complain about me.

Okay, that's totally fair I appreciate that very much so.

Although I seem to find myself on committees, nonetheless.

Yeah.

So, some of them we keep in common in tandem so yes,

we're not real good about recognizing the literal meaning of sabbatical, at U of D Mercy, which of course is why we don't call it that, it's really, it's leave

Ah, but what are we needing

make like a tree and get out of here. I'd like to welcome a professor Beth Oljar.

Good to be here.

And your voice is crystal clear, it is.

I turned up the volume on my mic so

the dulcet tones of Beth buddy shine through.

Now I'm going to guess that those books behind you are not decorative.

Ah, they're not, which doesn't by any means mean that I've read all of them, but they're not decorative

They're Drew's comics, aren't they.

No most of his comic collection is probably still in my sister's attic, in Portland, unless we moved it to Detroit I don't remember I don't think we did. Most of it is probably in the basement.

Professor Stephen Manning is here with us today decorative bottles and all over the wall. How's it going, Stephen. Fine. Good. I mean, I've had this conversation with him before. We're basically less than 50 days before the federal election. And I just, no matter how contentious everything in the country gets I, I would just guess this is a political scientists Christmas, is it not.

Yeah, it is. Yeah, it's distressing as a citizen but interesting as a, as a political scientist. To be sure, yeah.

Okay, we'll take it. I wonder quite a bit about this country right now I just finished reading Cast by Isabel Wilkerson which I will recommend you all very, very eye opening study of where we are in this country right now and published during the pandemic that's gotta you know give you a couple bonus points there so

I just double check that I was going to get my ballot in the mail, we keep receiving the forms right to request it and we get we're getting so many of them that was freaking me out no matter how often drew reassured me that he had made sure we were going to get our ballots in the mail so finally I just went on michigan.gov and it looks like they're going to be mailed tomorrow so

different groups that are sending you those absentee ballot applications, it's not the state. Different politically interested groups that are sending to make sure you're, you know you've requested okay and as well and I was worried you know just the amount of sending it back like I get in trouble for trying to vote twice or, you know what,

no, no, no.

I'm chill. I'm good now.

Good. It's important that we would return that very quickly to given the males, unless of course you're undecided.

No

matter who I answer. The best player at this point.

Professor Dan Maggio who is here with us today. And Matt How are you, and

Dan. How are

you in a very good, good.

Sent I must be the residual effects of sabbatical ism.

It was um, I can say this without question around 5am this morning. It was 49 degrees outside. Whenever I picture you know that the change to fall which we're about to undergo already have a picture you being excited about pulling out a sweater jacket I don't know what it is but I am, I'm excited. I'm actually meeting friends tonight and I may have to wear long pants, which would be the first time I've had those out and forever since I'm a diehard shorts person is Who are you see why are we, excited that the weather. The weather is turning. Cool. That's crisp Yes. Professor Dave Chow is no doubt, putting together a sketch right now to complement the candidate

sketch.

This cat is very interested in whatever it is he's trying to keep us occupied that's also the cat keeps on coming a frame I figured at least give my kid, somebody play

with.

So have your classes met your cat or cats. Yep.

Oh yes they frequently comment on when Jupiter jumps in my lap or sometimes they'll see Luna, on the back of my lifting set. Yep. They're one of my class. No, no, no, no

need to stay in my office instead of shutting her out so she's gotten introduced to a couple of my classes and of course you know, they think she's adorable so I'm hoping that will rub off on their teaching evaluations. There you go. Before cat is

a sort of bribes are for. Professor Jim Tom's is also with us here today.

I have no cat so I guess I have to watch other people's

Okay, I mean, and I love Jupiter's tail in the frame that is awesome. That is totally awesome.

It's like a feather boa gone awry.

This is the program you can send us questions regarding anything if you stumped the panel you win a prize if you don't stop the panel you win a prize you can send the questions to us in a number of ways you can email us at ATP at university that edu, find us on Facebook and Instagram or listen on your favorite smart speaker by asking it what ask the professor at University of Detroit mercy, you know, then sitting on these too long. Or maybe I just remember when we had them. We got a set of questions from Professor Stephen Manning, you wrote these on first of July Stephen.

Are they about baseball.

They are not,

they are not thank goodness, or they said that not me.

He's um, you have to put

labeled first of July, 2020, okay that's important. Okay. These questions are all about the state of the United States of America. With regard to the global pandemic on first of July, 2020. Okay. What percent of coronavirus cases so let's say those are positives were reported by counties that President Trump won in the 2016 election, what percent of coronavirus positive cases were reported in counties, President Trump in one, so this is basically be at the height of the pandemic July 1 right. What percent

6778

of all the ones that were reported. What percent came from counties that supported Trump specific counties that supported Trump not states but I'm going to say it's a very low number. I

would say, I'm gonna say 75 to 20%.

I have heard I have heard some 60s and some 70s and I'm going right to Dan with the error bars, the answer is 27%.

Well, they did think in the White House, initially, that this was only going to affect blue states. That's true. So they said, you know, why do anything about it.

He said the other day if they discount the blue states then our numbers are very vital

yeah i mean he's only a president for certain states you know so I mean,

to me, I asked what does that low number demonstrate.

I would say there's not a lot of testing going on.

Not a lot of areas that are important.

I would say it's less testing and less people saying that they would like to be tested I mean it's both of those things together. So there's a higher denial rate. Yeah, which would lead to less interest in being tested. I'm giving Dan these like you know wizard, what are the sear of Omaha, you know, kind of status here because the next question, which is jumping right over was and what percentage of deaths, and it is exactly 21% of you said 20, and that's pretty amazing that you were able to pull that number out of thin air. Well I'm really just not here so I'm trying to fill in for him.

Because he would be he would be the he's the numbers guy.

If your major metropolitan areas are I mean, there are major cities in the south and not saying that right but if you're bigger metropolitan areas are in blue states, then

they're going to have higher percentage rates of trial.

Firstly back in July before the. They started raking through the, the South and the Southwest. Yeah, yeah.

So let's put that hat of July 1 back on. Researchers at Columbia University created a model gauging coronavirus transmission rates from basically middle march to early May. They found that the US had started social distancing just two weeks before it could have prevented what percentage of cases, and deaths, they are very similar numbers. So let's say together what percent of cases, it does could have been prevented if we had started social distancing about two weeks before March 15.

We're saying about 30,000

deaths is what

I heard could have been for like 130,000 dairies.

Oh, that would be higher.

percent.

Well 33%. You know, it says here that basically the the mean for the two of these is 83% of transmission is rarely prevented if we had started social distancing earlier, which is why these things that Bob Woodward discovered essentially in plain sight are so demonstrative because we know for a fact that things are being politicized and people aren't even trying to hide it, which is kind of rural

to be nice of Bob to share that with the rest of us.

Yes, yes I know when we, when we noticed.

He said that Trump often says things that are incorrect. so he had to wait to have that be reported up, which is stupid, because the relevant fact, I mean whether Trump was right or wrong. He was saying things he believed to be true and lying. I mean, he believed that this was deadly and that it was airborne, and he lied to us about it. So, whether he knew at the time that what he was saying was true or not is irrelevant. Right. He was okay sorry, I had to go.

It's true, you're going you're going down that route that you do that logic that you do

people over 80 are how many times is likely to pass from COVID-19 than those who are just in their 20s.

And times.

A lot gets partial credit.

It's not eight, okay. It's not a lot enough on knew your long order of magnitude.

100.

You are so this is not my percentage This is my, my times. Here you are 184 times more likely to pass room, 80, and you are in your 20s. That's the hit right there, right.

Yeah, yeah. According to the governor of Texas, our elderly folks should just be willing to give up their lives for the economy. Yeah. Right. I

mean, if it was the other way around. You know what the eight year old would do to save us, you know, as opposed to us giving them up. Right, that's you know that's the same factor but you know, a little sad and liberty mixed together as a first of July, 2020. What question two in

the form of a

question

as Google registered a sudden surge of queries for. As of July, 1 2020.

Where can I find the mass and good but that's not it.

What can I get tested.

It's good but that's not it. No, the, the question that it saw surge just about basically the start of summer was what day of the week is it today. Ah,

oh that's funny. What this

device is for, you know, I know I bet eyebrows pretty much say the thing, if you stop and think about it, don't you think you can figure it out. Do you really have to resort to googling it really no I have my phone or.

Come on, think about it, people

use this, use the weather app as opposed to sticking their head out the door you know i mean
i do that too. Yeah.

You're listening to a special edition of Ask The professor, in which each of the eight 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 program, and we welcome your questions at ATP at UT mercy.edu, the professor's returned answer more of your questions in just 80 seconds. But first,

future president signed a petition in college protesting scarce and intolerable food. Teddy Roosevelt, no earlier Taft earlier earlier earlier. One of the really early ones, Washington, there's a city in Michigan named after the Southern Miss

Monroe.

I was gonna say never heard of President Adrian. President blissfield, president president,

President zog definitely need what President became known as the man without a party. Nixon. No, no, this is how recent, this is mid 1970s Yeah, there's like a Dan here and

you can

think of typical new Tyler's because he told his wig cabinet he'd be making his own decisions in the cabinet resign

and make your voice count. Election Day is Tuesday November 3.

We have some questions here from Professor Stephen Manning during the initial month of Chicago's coronavirus lockdown arrests were up or down by what percent restauro down by yeah down, 75%.

No, they were up.

Actually, it says here that Dan is the knower of all down 73% is what isn't

new people on the streets Jim, that's, while murders went up. Oh,

murders went up but these are arrests. Oh, yes.

First one up. At the same time, in a similar timeframe yes they did actually know people get goofy.

I'm very proud that I was wearing a mask before the end of March, the fright. One was tell I'm like, well, it can't hurt, and it might help. That's right, why not do it and then of course, I was right about that he masks masks masks.

What percent leading into July 1, where the time those days cars were parked on average what percent of the time, leading into July 1. No way. Could you repeat the question

you rephrase the question. Yeah, that's better.

What percent of the time were cars parked from 15th of March to first of July, it's gonna be really high 98 75% harder the entire time.

The entire tunnels twice in that period only got about five gallons each on this. This one goes to borough 95%.

I mean you know it's bad when

I understand. Okay now I understand quality improved dramatically rate for lowering greenhouse gas emission in New Delhi, what would happen is that critters would getting in and start chewing on the electrical wires, because the cars hadn't been moved right was so

tasty, my insurance company keeps asking me for an odometer reading. Because I send it in and from month to month it's like 16 miles. I can't believe this and they keep asking me please give us a domitor reading, you know, so I send it in and another 16 miles for that month, just give me your earnings off of your lawn

mower, Stephen, your insurance company will never ask for your social security number or your odometer reading issue really.

Are you a big scam. Yeah, no many individual droplets can be generated by a human sneeze 100,000 hundred thousand is high. And then 10,000. I mean, you're at the right order of magnitude this one goes to Jim it's 40,000 droplets per sneeze it's not that big actually

people that have bigger sneezes than most.

Including my cat. One of my cats, two of my cats I'm sure can have COVID. Yeah, can you get them tested.

Ah, no, cats cannot get COVID which is why I wished I had taught Fiji how to drive so I could send them out on

errands Yeah,

just got that that's awesome I just got a vision of Fiji wearing like a driving cap and like walking into the room like we're to miss Beth okay so

cats can't get covid but dogs can't.

Yes, well cats are better.

I think one case of the cat getting hold of it but of course if they could give it to us, they probably would would

choose to choose a word Yeah, they're generous. Yes,

take over the world there's, there's your favors.

Oh my. How many locally transmitted cases of coronavirus did Hong Kong record for the month of June, 2022, no more than that. Dan all over again their official count was three for the raw,

and you're killing it today.

Yeah, I want the prime after the price surprise right. Can you buy, can you buy water as Leslie was taking out from the back, am I gonna win a pot or something. hesitate to come with food and there will be food. Oh good. Okay, for it to come over the mile families making pork buns tonight,

giving me a serious. Yes.

If I start walking out there in 10 minutes, you will receive your pork bun in the mail in two to five weeks.

When Holly here in Southfield is started dim sum menu, and they've got two different kinds of pork buns on there.

Nice, very nice I know the one.

You know, our zip code Heather's and Steven and mine was one of the top three for COVID cases in the Detroit Metro area.

Yeah. I'm glad that you mentioned that Beth because our last question here is, which zip code of the highest death rate of COVID-19 circa first of July, 2020. I think that if you know the zip code, that'll be awesome but you could also give me just a part of the country. Your. Yeah, your other gun and it's a Brooklyn

1101. zip code yeah

exactly so pretty, pretty amazing stuff there Steven those questions are pretty awesome. And it's always good to be looking into the pandemic for a little bit of entertainment. Let's go to our list of ATP favorites to wrap up our show. And, Oh here we go. Okay. What is your professors favorite outlandish excuse that came from a student. Oh,

oh I have one.

Go for it Beth,

I had my very first semester, teaching here so would have been fall of 1996. I had a student who told me that he was going to be late to class, because he couldn't use the bathrooms on campus. so he had to go home.

between classes. Okay, okay.

Real Lansing Grand Rapids, no i

i think it was not that far away from campus but it was kind of a jaw dropper I'm like, What are you serious

bathrooms on campus tidiness,

I will believe everything imaginable and

bathrooms, I understand that the men's bathrooms and the bricks building at least on the second and third floors are pretty bad

nasty pretty well.

The ladies are much better.

Right. I would be.

I don't know if this qualifies as outlandish. It's a little embarrassing. I have a student who had been had some serious attendance problems, and right before I go the class that she's in the phone rings in my office I pick it up. It's her again, saying that and she's in a state, but she had been that way before saying that she was couldn't come to class was if she could come he would be late. And I said, What now, and she said, My baby was kidnapped. And I said, Okay, so that was the other course I didn't believe her. It turned out that it was true. We had come down from her apartment that had put the baby in a carrier on the stoop forgot something went back up, came back out, baby was gone.

Oh my god. Find the baby,

baby. They eventually found the baby yes but somebody come by and scoop the whole thing up, take us away, and I had nothing but excuses from this young woman. Turns out she was right, is that I would

believe that she called you to tell you that

she knew we had conversations and I basically said, you know, you missed one more class, you know you're not going to pass this class. Right, okay. No more excuses. Wow, she calls with this which turned out not to be an excuse.

Incredible. I don't know if anybody's gonna top that, oh, he is stuck in an elevator and a shovel just doesn't count anymore, you know. Exactly, exactly. You know

it seems to me more and more I don't even give excuses.

They just don't show up. Yeah.

Otherwise,

oh sorry for the kid that baby that that. Yeah.

Emily members be shot.

I've had that one too.

Um, I would be remiss if I didn't at least incidentally bring up, even though it's a little on the negative side it brings us great joy or at least it used to. JOHN Stevens who teaches physical chemistry and general chemistry and morrows in my department, he says, My final exams are like kryptonite to grandparents, like that was his like he's like, I got grandmas and grandpas passing away going in multiple times always never knew you had 14 grandparents right. Like I think there's something about my exams though that makes them pass away, like I don't know what I'm doing wrong.

Oh my.

Well I'm afraid, looking at the clock here that we've reached the limit of what the universe can take for ATP today so the time has come to say goodbye, Jim. e.

Yes, it might even write.

I another a by

Mara,

the limit does not exist.

Now these words, you can email ask the professor at re at UT mercy.edu or visit the Ask the professor Facebook page.

Ask the professor is produced and directed by Michael Jayson and Brian Maisonville, and our executive producer is Professor Jason Roche. till next week I'm your host Matt Mio.