

# ATP 2314 transcript

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## SUMMARY KEYWORDS

initials, christmas, professor, antarctica, thought, absolutely, professors, sounds, laugh, questions, antarctic, buy, good, beth, movie, laughs, nice, appendix, danny kaye, quote

## SPEAKERS

Beth Oljar, Mara Livezey, Dan Maggio, Matt Mio, Ph.D., Michael Jayson, Erin Bell, James Tubbs, Dave Chow

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**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 00:01  
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. It's been a long time since we've seen Professor Mara Livezey in this studio.

**M** Mara Livezey 00:20  
It's great to be here.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 00:24  
And we're happy that she's back.

**D** Dave Chow 00:25  
I'm thankful we kept the receipt. (The professors laugh) No instructions, no warranties implied either.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 00:32  
That's right. So how did it end up with your remote lab here this afternoon? Like you basically hit all the notes and it was like -

**M** Mara Livezey 00:40

Mara Livezey 00:49

You know, I could have done more. But I made a decision that I had done enough - and I deserved to be here with you all today.

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 00:50

That is so cool. Very, very cool.

B

Beth Oljar 00:52

This is like your decision to stop doing ballet, which by the way, I think is like the coolest feminist thing I've ever heard in my life.

M

Mara Livezey 00:58

Probably one of the best decisions of my life.

B

Beth Oljar 00:59

"I wanted to eat and not feel bad about it". I'm like "You go girl!"

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 01:03

Awesome. Awesome. Someone who once stored a cot in the room and stayed here for a whole week, It's Professor Dave Chow.

D

Dave Chow 01:11

Uh, Pleasure to be here - for now.

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 01:13

That's a joke.

D

Dave Chow 01:14

Yeah. And I'm leaving here to go to CCS to live on my other cot.

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 01:17

That's right.

**B** Beth Oljar 01:17  
I literally was going to ask "Did you really do that?"

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 01:20  
I mean, it sounds like something Dave would do. You're not doing that tonight, are you?

**D** Dave Chow 01:23  
No, no, not tonight, but I will be there setting up tables. Well, I'll set up some tables. I'm gonna lose my mind come tomorrow.

**J** James Tubbs 01:29  
But you're not gonna set up all the luminaries?

**D** Dave Chow 01:31  
No, because what happens is if I set them up now, there's gonna be some little kid that's gonna be kicking them over.

**J** James Tubbs 01:36  
Well, I and the wind is kind of bad.

**D** Dave Chow 01:38  
I don't worry about the wind.

**J** James Tubbs 01:40  
You don't want flattened bags?

**D** Dave Chow 01:42  
No I don't mind the flattened. I just don't want the flaming ones.

—

- J** James Tubbs 01:45  
That's what I mean.
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 01:46  
Flaming bags. Yes
- D** Dave Chow 01:48  
Of course, that is kind of fun. It's It reminds me of - (Beth, you'll appreciate this). It's like DIE HARD. I can land the plane on the campus if I need to.
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 01:55  
Yeah, exactly. Exactly.
- D** Dave Chow 01:57  
It's lit up as bright as it could be
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 01:59  
Demonstrating to us his a luminary-ology. It's Professor Jim Tubbs.
- J** James Tubbs 02:03  
Hello. Hello.
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 02:05  
I want to say that that's a real college major. Maybe I'm wrong.
- J** James Tubbs 02:08  
Well, it could be. It could be.
- D** Dave Chow 02:10  
It's a good paper

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 02:10  
(Laughing) It's at least a good paper.

**B** Beth Oljar 02:11  
At a terrorist university.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 02:15  
Oh, yeah. Very nice.

**B** Beth Oljar 02:16  
So maybe at some madrasas that's a thing you could major in.

**D** Dave Chow 02:20  
Can you imagine the dissertation? "Here's how to make a Molotov cocktail".

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 02:20  
Oh, my gosh. There was an instance a few years back, it's many years back now, possibly 10-ish, where Jane Schley in our department was eating this little Greek yogurt jar, basically about the size of a like a pint every other day, so two or three times a week. And then she was asking me to take the glass things home so I could recycle them. And I saved every single one of them and then went and bought like a block of like 500 tea lights. And then we did them as luminaries down the entire -

**J** James Tubbs 02:57  
Mm-hm

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 02:57  
It made for a really great picture. But I didn't tell her I was going to do it. And then I sent her the picture on Christmas Eve. She's like, "What did you do?" "I saved all your glass jars". She's like "Why did you do that?" You know -

**B** Beth Oljar 02:58

Cool

D Dave Chow 03:10  
Luminaries look wonderful. I'm tellin' ya,

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 03:12  
Yeah, it was really nice.

B Beth Oljar 03:13  
Well, you didn't recycle them. You repurposed them.

J James Tubbs 03:16  
Yeah, you repurposed them.

D Dave Chow 03:17  
Now, Okay, Matt -

J James Tubbs 03:17  
And that's a good purpose.

D Dave Chow 03:18  
Who cleaned them up afterwards?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 03:20  
Well, I was thinking - like, how long ago was it, because it was my middle son Lorenzo, who is about to turn 15. And I think that he was young enough that he's like, "Oh, I want to be helpful". So probably about 10 years ago.

E Erin Bell 03:30  
Oh, wonderful. Wow, I missed that.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 03:32  
Do you remember that, Erin?

B Beth Oljar 03:33  
That stage lasts for like two minutes. Right?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 03:36  
Seriously. Professor Dan Maggio is here. Good to see you. Dan.

D Dan Maggio 03:40  
Hi, Matt.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 03:41  
What's going on?

D Dan Maggio 03:42  
Uh, survived another week.

D Dave Chow 03:44  
Yay!

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 03:44  
Another week - in the books.

D Dan Maggio 03:46  
One week closer to retirement. (The professors laugh)

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 03:48  
Oh my word!

**D** Dan Maggio 03:50  
Seven years and six weeks left.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 03:53  
Look -

**M** Mara Livezey 03:53  
That's also how I count my days until break.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 03:55  
And by the way, I didn't even notice that - It was notable that you were sitting here. I just walked in - and like - "Oh, Mara's here".

**M** Mara Livezey 03:56  
This is normal.

**D** Dan Maggio 03:59  
Are you taking Mara for granted, like she's a fixture?

**M** Mara Livezey 04:07  
Yeah.

**D** Dan Maggio 04:08  
It's good to see you.

**J** James Tubbs 04:08  
Well, you know what, Mara, sometimes even with retirement, it doesn't stop.

**M** Mara Livezey 04:12



Oh, no

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 04:13  
Also true.

**B** Beth Oljar 04:14  
Jim is still trying desperately to get free of the clutches of the University.

**D** Dave Chow 04:18  
That's just because we can't pry off the ankle tether.

**J** James Tubbs 04:21  
That's right. I haven't found the key.

**D** Dan Maggio 04:22  
Well, that's self inflicted.

**J** James Tubbs 04:23  
I haven't found the key.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 04:25  
Now, Dan, you are not allowed to come to this panel at some point in the future and, you know, bring the newspaper and do the old schtick about "just looking in the obituaries for my own name", that sort of thing.

**D** Dan Maggio 04:37  
No

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 04:37  
Don't do that.

**D** Dan Maggio 04:38  
No, don't say that.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 04:39  
Yeah, I'm not saying that. That's the idea - Don't do that. You're allowed to look forward to retirement but -

**D** Dan Maggio 04:45  
I am.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 04:45  
not your next passing.

**J** James Tubbs 04:47  
My dad, in his latter years, used to come downstairs to the breakfast table, open up the paper and look at the obituaries first and if he wasn't in there, he would just go on with his day. (The professors laugh)

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 04:56  
Yeah. Exactly. Exactly.

**D** Dan Maggio 04:58  
So I also had one other thing to note. So - in the Facebook group, there was a question and some responses. And it went over to Smith Media Center. And then- I don't know if you remember Scott Anderson.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 05:13  
He is a good guy. Of course

**D** Dan Maggio 05:13  
Of course. So I went to school with him back in the day and then he was in the Math Department too. But he had commented. He goes "Oh, yeah. Smith Media". He goes, "I was - " I think it was a guest on the show for a couple of times over the years. I don't remember...

think it was a guest panelist on the show for a couple of times over the years. I don't remember him. But Scott, if you're listening, Hi. I hope things are great in Savannah. But to know that he was on the show, if he's ever back in town, we'll have to have him on as a guest again. He is a great guy. Being in Savannah is already great in Savannah.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 05:34

Yeah. that's true. That's true. Continuing around the table, Professor Erin Bell is here with us today. What's going on, Erin?

**E** Erin Bell 05:50

I guess I'm counting down the days until the vacation - so - you know, hoping I can bring back some trivia. I think I told you I'm going to Dauphin Island - because it's a good birdwatching spot. I don't know anything else about it. And I recently decided to go on the Cuba trip. I think that's a really awesome opportunity. And I'm looking forward to that. Just, you know, got a lot of fraud charges this morning for trying to pay for that trip. And I'm like, "No, it's really me.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 05:52

Yeah!

**E** Erin Bell 05:56

Go to Cuba. Just having some lunch and learned about Cuba. I mean, what's better than that? You know, I mean, seriously.

**B** Beth Oljar 06:24

(Laughs) Learning about Cuba, having some food.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 06:28

Those are the dulcet tones of Professor Beth Oljar. We're gonna make each other laugh really, really -

**J** James Tubbs 06:33

Beth, have you been grading term papers non-stop?

**B** Beth Oljar 06:36

No, I don't get them until December 9. But that, of course, was from "Fast Times at Ridgemont High".

**J** James Tubbs 06:44  
Ah

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 06:44  
There you go.

**B** Beth Oljar 06:45  
I'm here with my new green nerd glasses.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 06:47  
They're very cool. You're coordinated.

**J** James Tubbs 06:49  
They look great with the top you're wearing too.

**B** Beth Oljar 06:51  
They're my favorite color.

**D** Dan Maggio 06:51  
And they match your cookies.

**B** Beth Oljar 06:53  
But I'm bummed out because Christine McVie died.

**J** James Tubbs 06:56  
Yes. That was a real tragedy. I remember when Marianne Faithful died. I thought, Oh no, what's happening here?

**B** Beth Oljar 07:02  
Fleetwood Mac was the first band I ever had a poster of because I remember Stevie and Christine are wearing the same pair of - They're wearing identical, gorgeous knee high suede boots with platform heels. And I just thought, " Well, those are cool. When can I get a pair?"

**D** Dave Chow 07:19  
You mean, David Cassidy wasn't your first? I'm shocked.

**B** Beth Oljar 07:22  
I didn't have a picture of him.

**D** Dave Chow 07:25  
Your Tiger Beat subscription lapsed. Didn't it?

**J** James Tubbs 07:27  
(Laughs)

**B** Beth Oljar 07:28  
I never subscribed, I actually just bought Tiger Beat and SIXTEEN magazine. And don't make fun of me. (The professors laugh)

**E** Erin Bell 07:34  
I was there for The Bop and the Big Bopper.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 07:36  
Yep.. Well, folks, it's been a while since we got a whole chunk of questions on Tiger Beat, I can tell you that right now.

**E** Erin Bell 07:43  
That would be awesome.

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 07:44

But - if you send us questions, we'll tackle them. And if you stump the panel, you'll win a prize. You can send us the questions in a number of ways. Email us at ATP at UDMercy.edu. Find us on Facebook and Instagram, or listen on your favorite smart speaker by asking it to play Ask The Professor at University of Detroit Mercy. You know what? It's - Christmas time.

D

Dave Chow 08:05

Oh, that thing.

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 08:06

Yes, it is Yuletide. And as a result of that, it's time for us to tackle some questions. And I believe that everybody in the panel mostly will laugh. Maybe not Dan, I'm sorry. I don't mean to be exclusionary, because the first thing on the page is "Warning: This email originated from outside of the University".

B

Beth Oljar 08:25

Oh, yeah.

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 08:29

internal emails.

D

Dan Maggio 08:30

Ahh

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 08:30

"Ho-ho, howdy profs. The call has gone out once again for Christmas special questions. And since we've had some fun with quotes before, how about some Christmas quotes. Enclosed is a collection of, hopefully, entertaining quotes related to the Christmas season. Your goal is quite simply to name who's responsible for that quote. Of course, the real goal here is to have a good time" Well, you do know - if you sing them, Jim is just going to ace them and the rest of us will be playing Cribbage.

J

James Tubbs 08:55

Aha

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 08:55  
We'll see. "Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. All the best, as always." Nat Pike of Livonia, Michigan. Yeah, so these are actually more lighthearted, spirited comedy lines. They are not lines from songs or anything like that.

**B** Beth Oljar 09:09  
Oh.

**M** Mara Livezey 09:09  
That's too bad.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 09:10  
"I bought my brother some gift wrap for Christmas. I took it to the gift wrap department and told them to wrap it, but in a different print = so he would know when to stop". I love that quote. I'm sorry.

**B** Beth Oljar 09:26  
This sounds like it's from Christmas Vacation or something.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 09:29  
It's the modern equivalent of the extremely dry comedy and dry delivery. When I say it, you'll be like "Oh, of course that's what it is".

**D** Dave Chow 09:38  
What - Like a Daniel Pinkwater story?

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 09:40  
Tall guy, no beard. Curly hair. White guy. I'm running out of -

**B** Beth Oljar 09:45  
Daniel Stern? Let's see.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 09:46  
No.

**E** Erin Bell 09:47  
Like a Will Farrell?

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 09:49  
initials SW. That's about as far as I'm gonna be able to go.

**D** Dave Chow 09:52  
Steven -

**J** James Tubbs 09:53  
Steve Wright

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 09:53  
Steven Wright. Yeah.

**D** Dan Maggio 09:57  
Oh, I get it. I was thinking it was from a movie.

**J** James Tubbs 10:00  
Well, this is giving me ideas. You know - to buy some wrapping paper and then go have it wrapped in the gift wrapping department.

**B** Beth Oljar 10:00  
As one who did gift wrapping at Christmas for a while - one Christmas season when I was 17, that would be really annoying to be handed a roll of gift wrapping paper and -

**J** James Tubbs 10:18



**J** James Tubbs 10:10

Yes it would. How about a Red Ryder BB gun? That would be another thing that would be fun to wrap.

**B** Beth Oljar 10:19

"Gift wrap this" Yeah, but that came in a box. Right? They managed to wrap that box.

**D** Dan Maggio 10:28

They did. Yep.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 10:29

So this next one is going to sound super topical, like someone just wrote it a couple of weeks ago, but it's actually a few decades old and I love it - this one as well. "Adults can take a simple holiday for children and screw it up. What began as a presentation of simple gifts to delight and surprise children around the Christmas tree has culminated in a woman unwrapping six shrimp forks from her dog, the person who drew her name." That's it. I'm giving away Jello.

**E** Erin Bell 10:59

I feel like there's a gender component there which makes me think -

**B** Beth Oljar 11:02

Yeah. It must be a man.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 11:03

No, it's a woman. It's someone concerned with observing modern American life - about a generation and a half ago. Not Miss Manners

**D** Dave Chow 11:16

What - like, Miss Manners?

**E** Erin Bell 11:17

Joan Rivers?

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 11:20  
How about initials E B.

**E** Erin Bell 11:21  
It was me, when I was like 10

**D** Dave Chow 11:23  
I was gonna say

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 11:23  
Erin Bell. Partial credit.

**B** Beth Oljar 11:28  
Is it a comedian?

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 11:29  
I mean - it was a humorist. I wouldn't say -

**J** James Tubbs 11:32  
Erma Bombeck

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 11:34  
Erma Bombeck. Yes. I thought that that was -

**J** James Tubbs 11:36  
That sounds like Erma Bombeck. She was a favorite of my mom's

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 11:39  
Yeah. Not dry humor, but just you know, biting

**D** Dave Chow 11:43  
Like a dry heat humor.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 11:44  
Yeah, exactly.

**E** Erin Bell 11:45  
Who wants a shrimp work for a gift? Come on. Maybe some people.

**D** Dan Maggio 11:48  
Give me the shrimp. I want shrimp. A fork is just getting in the way,

**D** Dave Chow 11:51  
People who eat a lot of shrimp maybe.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 11:52  
"A lovely thing about Christmas is that it's compulsory, like a thunderstorm. We all go through it together". At some level, even for non Christians, that is a true statement. Now that's a great piece of comedy. I pretty much can give this one away without even the initials. It's an American humorist from the modern era.

**D** Dan Maggio 12:12  
Seinfeld?

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 12:13  
Unfortunately, he has come in to some allegations that canceled their extremely famous radio show in recent years. Yeah,

**J** James Tubbs 12:20  
Radio show?

**B** Beth Oljar 12:22  
Howard Stern?

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 12:22  
No. Radio variety show.

**D** Dave Chow 12:22  
Al Franken?

**J** James Tubbs 12:25  
Radio variety show?

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 12:28  
I'm surprised. I thought you were gonna get this one right off the bat.

**M** Mara Livezey 12:32  
I mean, your hint made me think Louie C.K, but I don't think he has a radio variety show.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 12:38  
No, no, this was - Last chance, initials G K.

**B** Beth Oljar 12:38  
Andy Rooney?

**D** Dave Chow 12:44  
George?

**D** Dan Maggio 12:45  
George Costanza. But, of course that was with a "C"

J James Tubbs 12:45  
George Carlin?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 12:49  
This might be a little bit harder. I mean, if I say the word WOBEGON, you're gonna tell me -

B Beth Oljar 12:56  
I said Garrison Keillor.

M Mara Livezey 12:56  
Oh, Garrison Keillor.

E Erin Bell 12:57  
Beth totally said it. Yeah.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 12:59  
It's in my, uh, ear -

B Beth Oljar 13:01  
I have a witness.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 13:03  
It's in my ear blind spot

D Dan Maggio 13:04  
Could you dial back? You said that it went off the air because of some controversy?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 13:09  
Yes. He was enbroiled in some sort of -

**D** Dan Maggio 13:11

I didn't know that. That I did not know. And it was really kind of - Is that still even on?

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 13:14

Yes, it is. Well, it's not just a new host. I mean, they completely re-envisioned the entire show.

**D** Dan Maggio 13:20

It's kind of - I mean, the old one was a bit flat, but it was still entertaining; but the new one, I heard it a couple times. It's just not for me. It could be for others.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 13:27

Yeah, it's - Yeah, he had some some differences -

**D** Dave Chow 13:30

We'd better watch ourselves in case it's -

**D** Dan Maggio 13:32

I don't know that I even hear it on Michigan Radio or WDET.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 13:35

I'm pretty sure it's there.

**D** Dan Maggio 13:37

All right, I'll pay attention

**B** Beth Oljar 13:38

The number of men who have been caught up in those scams. It never ceases.

**D** Dan Maggio 13:42

I did not know that

I did not know that.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 13:43  
Yes.

**M** Mara Livezey 13:44  
Unending. Really.

**B** Beth Oljar 13:45  
Like we can't do this. Why not? What's the problem?

**D** Dave Chow 13:48  
You do know we should be on NPR. We should be. Right?

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 13:52  
Yeah

**M** Mara Livezey 13:52  
Let's tell them.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 13:53  
Let's do it.

**E** Erin Bell 13:55  
To be heard on the campus.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 13:57  
Okay, pay attention to the context clues here. "I stopped believing in Santa Claus when I turned six. Mother took me to see him at the department store, but he asked for MY autograph"



**J** James Tubbs 14:11  
Macaulay Culkin

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 14:13  
Good, but you need to go another couple generations back.

**D** Dave Chow 14:16  
Shirley Temple-Black?

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 14:17  
Shirley Temple-Black

**J** James Tubbs 14:18  
Yeah

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 14:19  
Yeah, absolutely. Yep, absolutely. I wish that I could do the impersonation; but because, of course my throat concerns here. I'm not gonna be able to do it right. But "Mail your packages early, so the post office can lose them in plenty of time for Christmas."

**J** James Tubbs 14:32  
Rodney Dangerfield?

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 14:34  
I mean, it does sound a little bit like that.

**D** Dave Chow 14:35  
I'm trying to think - How could Matt strain his voice?

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 14:39  
No. I mean, I would strain my voice from doing any voice is the point that I'm making. So initially, it's the greatest, you know, late night host



initials, JC the greatest, you know, late night host -

**D** Dave Chow 14:47  
Johnny Carson.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 14:47  
Johnny Carson. Absolutely.

**B** Beth Oljar 14:48  
He really was you know, I just don't think anybody any other late night host has been as good as he was.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 14:57  
What about "Christmas is a baby shower that went totally overboard?" A classic humorist,

**J** James Tubbs 15:04  
(Laughs) Pope Francis?

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 15:07  
Oh my gosh, I'm so sorry. I'm not sure there's any way that I can give you a clue on this one because I actually don't recognize the name except for this person is in comedy. The initials are A B. That's the best that I can do.

**B** Beth Oljar 15:19  
I was gonna say Amy Schumer.

**D** Dan Maggio 15:23  
Is it a male or female?

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 15:24  
It's male. It's male. First name is Andy.

**D** Dan Maggio 15:29  
Borowitz?

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 15:30  
Andy Borowitz, yeah. That's right, you figured it out. I also don't recognize the next name on the list; but it's a great quote, so I'm going for it. These are the three stages of man: He believes in Santa Claus. He does not believe in Santa Claus. He becomes Santa Claus.

**D** Dan Maggio 15:45  
Tim Allen.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 15:46  
No, no, no, that's a good -

**D** Dan Maggio 15:47  
but I should get half credit for connecting the dots.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 15:52  
I have initials B P for that one. BP

**D** Dave Chow 15:56  
It's not British Petroleum.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 15:57  
No, it's not British Petroleum. Absolutely not. No.

**D** Dave Chow 16:02  
Bill?

**M** Matt Mio. Ph.D. 16:03

Bob. It says Bob Phillips. I'm afraid I'm not familiar with him. It's a little too general, frankly. Why don't you just put John Smith.

**J** James Tubbs 16:11  
But I certainly recognize the progression there. Yes.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 16:13  
How about Santa Claus had the right idea. You should visit people only once a year.

**M** Mara Livezey 16:22  
That's my new motto.

**J** James Tubbs 16:25  
That sounds like George Costanza.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 16:27  
It does. The initials are VB. And he was just very well known for comedy and playing the piano at the same time.

**B** Beth Oljar 16:34  
Victor Borge?

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 16:35  
Victor Borge.

**D** Dave Chow 16:36  
I was gonna say "Vinnie Barbarino?"

**B** Beth Oljar 16:37  
When you mentioned playing the piano at the same time.

- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 16:41  
Mm-hm. Oh my gosh. If I say this low and slow, maybe that will help you guess. "You can tell a lot about a person by the way they handle three things: A rainy day, lost luggage and tangled Christmas lights".
- D** Dave Chow 16:58  
Sounds like me yesterday?
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 17:01  
No, this is a very, very famous American writer who, if I remember correctly, she had the chance to speak at Obama's first inauguration. So I mean, this is off the charts. Not really known for humor, by the way.
- B** Beth Oljar 17:14  
Toni Morrison.
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 17:15  
No, it wasn't Toni Morrison. initials -
- D** Dave Chow 17:18  
Maya Angelou?
- M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 17:18  
It was Maya Angelou.
- E** Erin Bell 17:20  
It just -
- M** Mara Livezey 17:20  
Nice.

**E** Erin Bell 17:21  
It doesn't sound like something she'd say.

**J** James Tubbs 17:23  
It really doesn't.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 17:25  
So serve. Yeah, exactly. Exactly.

**D** Dave Chow 17:28  
A little too much venom.

**B** Beth Oljar 17:29  
But she's arguably not wrong.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 17:32  
No, no. I agree.

**B** Beth Oljar 17:33  
Those three things would tell you a lot about a person.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 17:36  
Absolutely. "What I don't like about Office Christmas parties is having to look for a job the next day". That is classic old school Hollywood. Initials P D. Don't think too hard.

**J** James Tubbs 17:49  
Phyllis Diller Yeah. I can imagine her at the office party (laughs)

**B** Beth Oljar 18:00  
Her and George together.

**J** James Tubbs 18:02  
Their laugh would shake the -

**B** Beth Oljar 18:04  
That would be wonderful.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 18:06  
"There are a lot of things money can't buy. Not one of them is on my kids' list." Another classic old school golden Hollywood comedian. Initials MB

**J** James Tubbs 18:18  
Milton Berle

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 18:19  
Milton Berle.

**B** Beth Oljar 18:20  
Yeah, I'm really not quite so sure. I think money may be can buy happiness.

**D** Dave Chow 18:25  
Or rent it.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 18:26  
It's possible.

**B** Beth Oljar 18:27  
If it can't buy happiness, it can certainly buy some remarkable substitutes.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 18:31

How about contentment?

**D** Dave Chow 18:33  
You know, Rent to own.

**J** James Tubbs 18:34  
Satisfaction

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 18:35  
Yes, peace of mind,

**J** James Tubbs 18:35  
Satisfaction.

**B** Beth Oljar 18:38  
Money can buy lots of Christmas ornaments.

**D** Dave Chow 18:41  
And office supplies.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 18:42  
One more of these, and they really have been a great set of questions. So thanks for those. "It's Christmas Eve. The one night of the year we all act a little nicer, smile a little easier, cheer a little more for a couple hours out of the whole year. We are the people that we always hoped we'd be." That's actually a quote from a movie that this very famous actor starred in from the 1980s.

**D** Dave Chow 19:03  
Schwarzenegger?

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 19:04

No.

**M** Mara Livezey 19:05  
An 80s Christmas -

**J** James Tubbs 19:07  
National Lampoon Christmas Special?

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 19:09  
No.

**B** Beth Oljar 19:09  
I was going there too.

**D** Dave Chow 19:11  
I was thinking -

**B** Beth Oljar 19:12  
Not Christmas Story.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 19:14  
No, it's not Christmas Story. Nope. It's a take on A Christmas Carol in the modern - uh -

**B** Beth Oljar 19:20  
Oh, SCROOGED.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 19:20  
SCROOGED - With Bill Murray. Yeah

**E** Erin Bell 19:23





That's a good one.



James Tubbs 19:24

But it sounds like part of it Chevy Chase speech.



Matt Mio, Ph.D. 19:27

It does.



Beth Oljar 19:28

But it's not as good as Eric Cartman's comment -



Matt Mio, Ph.D. 19:30

Well, let's be serious.



Beth Oljar 19:32

on Christmas.



Matt Mio, Ph.D. 19:33

Right



Beth Oljar 19:33

"Thank you baby Jesus for being born, so I get presents".



Matt Mio, Ph.D. 19:36

So I get presents.



James Tubbs 19:38

(laughs)



Beth Oljar 19:38

**B** Beth O'Jar 19:38  
That exactly summarizes my own view on Christmas,

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 19:42  
Oh my gosh. "Dear Profs: Professor Chow asked us to send in Christmas question, so here's a few quick ones about a perennial favorite classic WHITE CHRISTMAS"

**E** Erin Bell 19:50  
Nice.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 19:50  
"I'm going to ask you to consider poor Antarctica. Besides being colder than the U.P., the place doesn't even have an original name. It literally means anti or opposite to the Arctic. So no wonder it's so brutal there, the place is permanently in a bad mood. So as Dennis and I are up here in the U.P., we're thinking maybe it's not so bad compared to the alternative to the south. I'll give you nine out of 12 for passing"

**J** James Tubbs 20:11  
That's where Belsnickel comes from. Antarctica.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 20:14  
That's right. "Your friend in the winter U.P. Marilyn Bachorik". Thanks for sending those in Marilyn . My fellow Nero Wolfe fan. Mm-HM. In White Christmas, there's an uncredited choreographer for the movie. Who is that? Don't think too hard.

**E** Erin Bell 20:24  
Fred Astaire.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 20:30  
That's a good guess. In that era.

**J** James Tubbs 20:33  
Danny Kaye?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 20:33  
No

B Beth Oljar 20:34  
Gene Kelly

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 20:35  
Nope. Getting closer. You have to think a little more broadly.

D Dave Chow 20:39  
What's his name - O'Connor?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 20:40  
Mm-mm

M Mara Livezey 20:40  
Is it Bob Fosse?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 20:41  
It's Bob Fosse!

E Erin Bell 20:42  
Oh! Ringer. Right?

B Beth Oljar 20:46  
Only the most famous American choreographer probably ever.

M Mara Livezey 20:50  
Yeah.

J James Tubbs 20:50  
But not famous until later.

M Mara Livezey 20:53  
Yeah.

B Beth Oljar 20:54  
Not 'til like - CHICAGO

M Mara Livezey 20:56  
CHICAGO, Yeah.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 20:59  
So -

B Beth Oljar 21:00  
ALL THAT JAZZ.

D Dave Chow 21:01  
Well, that's kind of like - what was it - when John Williams was first writing songs, he went under "Johnny Williams". So

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 21:07  
Mm-hm. People still call him Johnny.

D Dave Chow 21:08  
Yeah.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 21:10

This is a good piece of trivia that I feel like I've heard before but maybe it's been a while. "The brother of Betty and Judy Eames is Benny, who is referred to as "The dog face boy". When Bob and Phil look at this picture, it's actually a picture of Carl Switzer, who is way better known as -

**D** Dave Chow 21:27

Alfalfa

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 21:28

Alfalfa from The LITTLE RASCALS.

**J** James Tubbs 21:30

Oh, yeah. After Phil and Judy confess that their engagement is phony, what does Bob (that would be Bing Crosby) call Phil (Danny Kaye)? It's a reference that includes a car I actually have to agree. She's like, "This cracks me up every time". Every time I hear this, I'm like that is so spot on. Does anybody remember?

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 21:50

No. He looks him up and down and goes "I tell you, you are a weirdsmobile". That's the quote. I think that's funny. Ohe my gosh. When the soundtrack for WHITE CHRISTMAS was made, Rosemary Clooney in the movie was under exclusive contract to Columbia and could not perform. So on the official soundtrack, Betty's role played by Rosemary Clooney in the movie was sang by this very, very important singer of the day for the entire album. Who was it?

**B** Beth Oljar 21:51

"You're a star"?

**D** Dave Chow 22:08

Peggy Lee?

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 22:18

Peggy Lee. Yeah. There you go. Yeah, I was gonna say they parodied her in - what was it - LADY AND THE TRAMP.

**B** Beth Oliar 22:32

Of course, one of the best songs ever. Right?

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 22:34

The snow in the final scene of the movie was made from what "magic mineral"?

D

Dave Chow 22:42

Asbestos

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 22:42

Absolutely.

M

Mara Livezey 22:43

Oh, no.

D

Dan Maggio 22:45

Fantastic.

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 22:46

This is not a joke. Everybody buckle in, because this is not a joke. Let's switch topics - just a little bit here. What procedure is required of all doctors who spend their winters in Antarctic? Yes, we definitely switched topics.

D

Dan Maggio 23:01

An appendectomy?

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 23:02

Absolutely, Doctors must have their appendix removed. How did you know that?

D

Dan Maggio 23:08

It's the only one I know. (The professors laugh)

M Mara Livezey 23:11  
The only procedure?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 23:11  
Oh my gosh.

J James Tubbs 23:13  
So they will not need emergency surgery. Right?

D Dan Maggio 23:15  
Actually, I misinterpreted. I thought it was - to be able to do. The basic -

M Mara Livezey 23:20  
Yeah, that makes sense.

J James Tubbs 23:21  
They insert prophylactics, so they will not need it.

B Beth Oljar 23:24  
If your appendix bursts in the Antarctic, you're gonna die. Right?

E Erin Bell 23:28  
Right.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 23:29  
Professors, why is time so confusing on the continent of Antarctica?

M Mara Livezey 23:35  
Because they have all - 24 hours,

J James Tubbs 23:38

They have all of the timezones.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 23:39

Officially, based on the UN, there is no timezone for Antarctica. It is a place without time.

D Dave Chow 23:46

So how do you set your watch?

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 23:49

That is a really good question. Because again -

J James Tubbs 23:51

If you're at the South Pole, you could just walk around in a circle and you'd hit 'em all.

D Dave Chow 23:54

Yeah.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 23:55

In only a few minutes,

B Beth Oljar 23:55

Well, it's not without time.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 23:57

Well, you're thinking about this like a philosopher.

D Dave Chow 24:00

No - no. There's a practicality to it because - like -





James Tubbs 24:03

Time still progresses, just not in a zone,



Dave Chow 24:06

But how do you like - "Okay, Beth, I'll meet you for lunch at noon". When's noon?



Mara Livezey 24:10

Which noon?



Dave Chow 24:11

Yeah



Beth Oljar 24:11

Time is a faculty of sensibility. It is empirically real and transcendently ideal.



Matt Mio, Ph.D. 24:16

There we go. Perfect. I know that you all are ready for this one, so let's just get it out of the way. Which has more penguins, the Arctic or the Antarctic?



Erin Bell 24:26

The one down there.



Matt Mio, Ph.D. 24:27

Why?



Dave Chow 24:28

Because there's no penguins at the North Pole.



Matt Mio, Ph.D. 24:29

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 24:29

There's no penguins in the North Pole. Yeah, that's exactly right. They're all in the Antarctic. What is the Antarctic animal that weighs up to 6000 pounds per organism, five times larger than the grizzly bear but is not a fish or mammal that swims in the sea, except for infrequently,

B

Beth Oljar 24:46

So it's not a sea lion

D

Dan Maggio 24:47

Not a walrus.

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 24:48

You're close. When you put like a sea lion and a walrus together, you get - ?

D

Dave Chow 24:54

Elephant seal?

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 24:54

Elephant seal. Hey! You did it. That's awesome. Yeah. There are no trees or shrubs native to Antarctica but there are 1000 species of - ?

D

Dave Chow 25:05

Lichen?

M

Matt Mio, Ph.D. 25:06

No.

D

Dan Maggio 25:06

Moss?

M

Mara Livezey 25:07

Slime mold

**D** Dan Maggio 25:08  
Is it a plant? it's a plant.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 25:11  
It's not a plant.

**D** Dave Chow 25:12  
Fungi?

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 25:12  
It's a fungus. Yeah, 100 fungus. Pretty weird.

**B** Beth Oljar 25:18  
And why do people spend time there? I mean I - I guess -

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 25:22  
Do you have your appendix?

**B** Beth Oljar 25:24  
I do have my appendix but I'm - I guess - for scientific knowledge, I suppose it would - What? Antarctica doesn't have a need for a cartoonist?

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 25:32  
You've gotta be working on that.

**B** Beth Oljar 25:33  
Well, I think you should get right down there to see.

**E** Frin Bell 25:35

EMILY BEN 25:35  
Yeah. Check it out.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 25:36  
Oh, my gosh.

B Beth Oljar 25:37  
They may not know that they have a need for it. I'm sure the emperor penguins are like "Hell yeah. Document us."

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 25:43  
Yeah, absolutely.

D Dave Chow 25:45  
Make-up.!

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 25:45  
I'm gonna lean in a biochemical direction for "Why don't Antarctic fish freeze if the temperature of the water is close to zero degrees Celsius?"

M Mara Livezey 25:56  
They have antifreeze proteins in their bodies.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 25:58  
That is exactly what it says here - in that order. Yes, they do.

D Dave Chow 26:01  
The Prestone fish.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 26:02  
Mm-hm. Their fats can't congeal. And last but most certainly not least, because this has been another really great thing. We definitely took a hard right turn at Bing Crosby and ended up in

Antarctica, but that's okay. What is strikingly unusual about the subglacial lake water that flows from the Taylor Glacier? This is actually pretty well known. You can look it up on YouTube. It is freaky.

**D** Dave Chow 26:25  
It's blue?

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 26:26  
It's not blue,

**B** Beth Oljar 26:27  
Green.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 26:28  
Nope.

**D** Dave Chow 26:29  
It's freshwater.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 26:31  
No

**D** Dan Maggio 26:31  
Salt water?

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 26:33  
Let's just say that it contains a lot of iron two plus.

**M** Mara Livezey 26:35  
It's red.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 26:36  
It's red. Yeah, exactly. It's blood red and it contains very high volumes of oxidized iron

B Beth Oljar 26:44  
That's really cool.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 26:45  
Yeah, I would say

J James Tubbs 26:46  
More than Tahquamenon Falls in the copper

D Dave Chow 26:49  
More than Zug Island

J James Tubbs 26:51  
Oh - Slag? (laughs)

D Dave Chow 26:54  
It's just a lovely brown color.

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 26:56  
Where did Zug Island come from? What did I miss? I mean, have you been there lately, Dave?

D Dave Chow 27:02  
Well, you forget I've experienced a hum over in Windsor because that place, so -

M Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:06  
Wait - Remind us -

**D** Dave Chow 27:07  
Do you remember the Windsor hum? Does anybody remember that?

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:09  
Yeah. I remember the Windsor hum.

**D** Dave Chow 27:10  
Yeah. Supposedly it came from Zug Island

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:12  
Really? So people in Windsor were complaining that there was a non stop sound coming from the American side.

**D** Dave Chow 27:18  
I wouldn't say it was nonstop. At my dad's hous, you could feel it in the hallway -

**E** Erin Bell 27:22  
Ooh

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:22  
Wierd.

**D** Dave Chow 27:23  
at night. At about seven o'clock, you could feel it. But during the day you didn't hear it. You could walk in to any other room, you didn't feel it. But I remember hearing it. I'm like, "It is real!"

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:33  
Freaky stuff.

---

**D** Dave Chow 27:34  
It is.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:35  
And in the other worlds of freaky, I'm afraid the time has come for us to say goodbye. Beth.

**B** Beth Oljar 27:40  
Goodbye,

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:41  
Erin.

**E** Erin Bell 27:42  
Goodbye.

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:42  
Dan.

**D** Dan Maggio 27:43  
Goodbye,

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:43  
Jim.

**J** James Tubbs 27:43  
Adios

**M** Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:44  
Dave





Dave Chow 27:45

See ya.



Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:45

and Mara.



Mara Livezey 27:46

Goodbye



Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:46

Now these words.



Michael Jayson 27:48

You can email Ask The Professor at ATP at [UDMercy.edu](mailto:ATP@UDMercy.edu) or visit the Ask the Professor Facebook page



Matt Mio, Ph.D. 27:57

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.