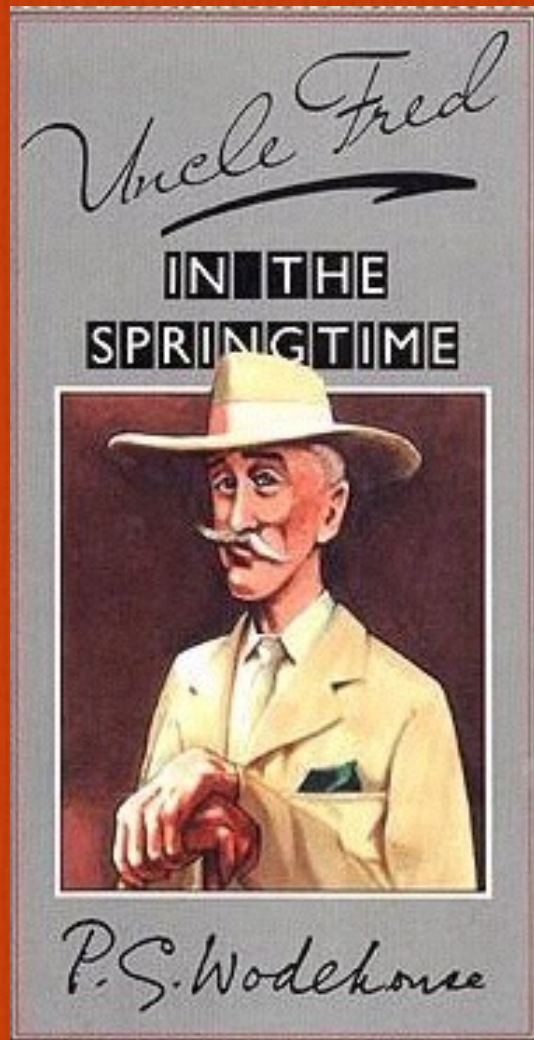


What I learned from Jim Rosenberger

Advice for this talk: Say whatever you want at the retirement party because, you know what, Jim would. — Kathy Smith

Uncle Fred



- Character in P.G. Wodehouse books
- “Tall, slim, distinguished-looking man with a jaunty moustache and an alert and enterprising eye. In actual count of time, he was no longer in his first youth.”
- No problem is insurmountable for him.
- His goal: “to spread sweetness and light” wherever he goes.

Service is Valuable (Be Generous)

- **Always be willing to take on new initiatives, new roles in the department, community, profession.**
- **Always find time to add new items to your “to do” list.**

Look out for Family, Friends, Colleagues, Students... (Build Community)

- Put family first.
- Ensure faculty (especially juniors) have all the support they need.
- Listen to everyone equally, even 29/30 year old know-nothings at faculty meetings.
- (But if you disagree, do things your way anyway.)

Most (All?) Problems Are Solvable

Cowboy Jim (Yee haw!!)



- Better to ask for forgiveness than permission.
- Eternal (certifiable) optimist: “Donald Trump could fix health care.”

Impervious to setbacks



Travel Fearlessly



- **Definitions:**
 - *Rosenberger Traveler* : Travel without a plan. Travel without ticket reservations in Zimbabwe. Drink water anywhere. Assume you will never get sick... Avoid/distrust motorcycle helmets.
 - *Hettmansperger Traveler* : Travel widely but never to a country more exotic than Australia, Finland or Switzerland. (Spain is “too unsafe”.)

Remain Eternally Youthful

Before



After



- Be willing to go out in Chicago late at night when people 40 years younger say they're tired and it's late.
- Be among the first in the department to adopt new technology.
- Show up to receptions and be one of the last to leave.
- (But remain oddly skeptical of “new fangled things” like MCMC.)

Be Politically Correct/Sensitive

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JUST KIDDING.....

- To a 30 year old postdoc: “You look like you’re in your 40s.”

Loose cannon



Be Politically Correct/Sensitive

JUST KIDDING.....

- To a 30 year old postdoc: “You look like you’re in your 40s.”
- To a single woman: “You should have time to do extra work since you don’t have to spend any time on family.”

Loose cannon



Be Politically Correct/Sensitive

JUST KIDDING.....

- To a 30 year old postdoc: “You look like you’re in your 40s.”
- To a single woman: “You should have time to do extra work since you don’t have to spend any time on family.”
- To an Indian: “I thought Indians learned politeness/sportsmanship from their English colonialists.”
- < Many many more (censored)>

Loose cannon



- You set the tone for the department, making it friendly, hospitable, world class.
- You helped us look beyond ourselves.
- You have meant a lot to us and the community for a long, long time.
- We will continue to benefit from all you've done for years to come.

THANKS, JIM!!

Jim could not have done this without his partner. (How does she do it ?!)

THANKS, GLORIA!!

