

# how to give a good talk

**michael greenberg**

*plmw @ popl*

*2025-01-21 denver, co*



Sun 19 - Sat 25 January 2025  
Denver, Colorado, United States

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## POPL 2025

Welcome to the website of the 52nd ACM SIGPLAN Symposium on Principles of Programming Languages (POPL 2025). POPL 2025 will take place in Denver, Colorado.

See the [Call For Paper](#) for detailed information.

The annual Symposium on Principles of Programming Languages is a forum for the discussion of all aspects of programming languages and programming systems. Both theoretical and experimental papers are welcome on topics ranging from formal frameworks to experience reports. We seek submissions that make principled, enduring contributions to the theory, design, understanding, implementation, or application of programming languages.

The symposium is sponsored by ACM SIGPLAN, in cooperation with ACM SIGACT and ACM SIGLOG.



### POPL 2025 Tracks

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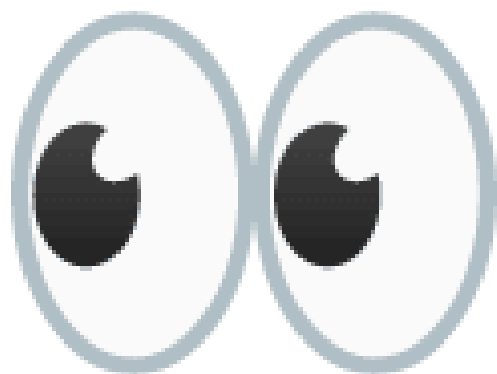
### Supporters



Carbon Offset



Platinum




# Fugees



# The Score

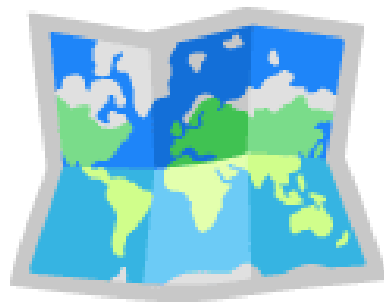
too many MCs, not enough mics  
exit your show like i exit the turnpike  
-- *Pras Michél* in "How Many Mics"

 inform 

 educate 

 entertain 





$\neq$



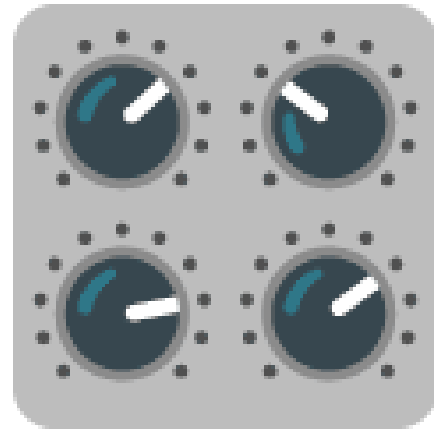






**rule #1**

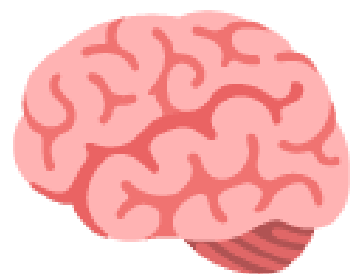
**motivation first**





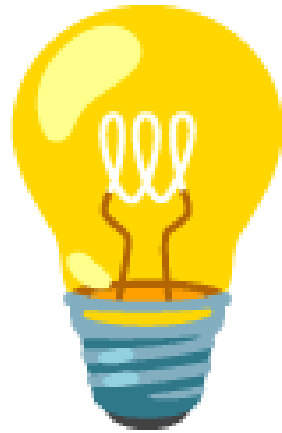
**rule #1**

**motivation first**



educate





**rule #2**

**teach something**

**portable**





entertain







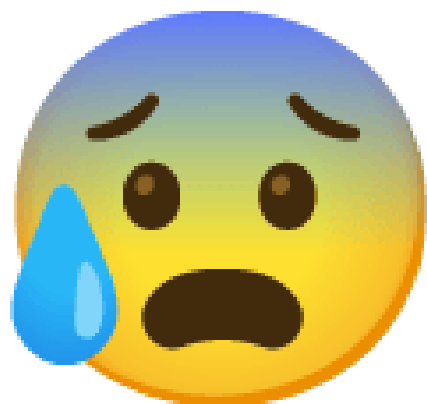





**you**

**rule #3**

**every talk is a  
job talk**



 inform 

 educate 

 entertain 

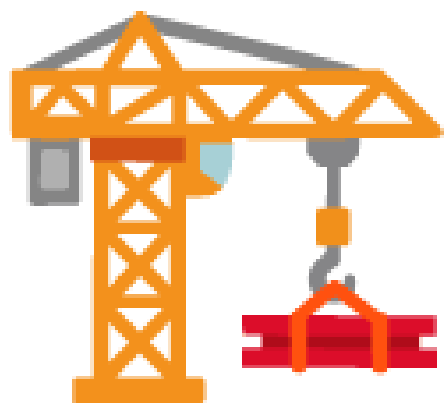


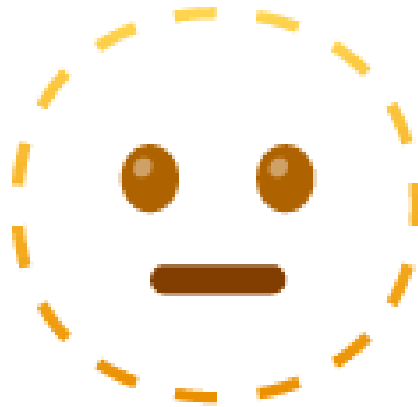
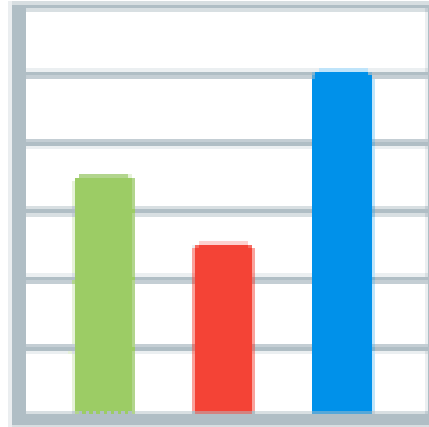


technology





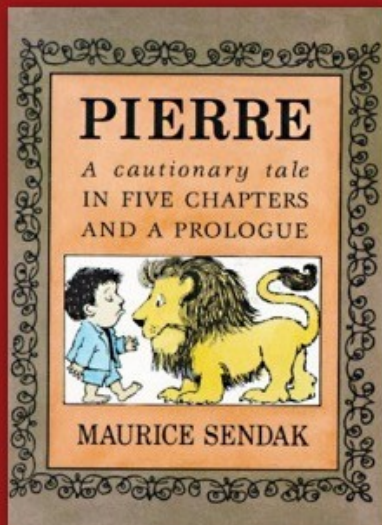




# anti-patterns







One day  
his mother said  
when Pierre  
climbed out of bed,  
"Good morning,  
darling boy,  
you are  
my only joy."  
Pierre said,  
"*I don't care!*"

10



"I can eat you,  
don't you see?"  
"*I don't care!*"  
"And you will be  
inside'of me."  
"*I don't care!*"  
"Then you'll never  
have to bother—"  
"*I don't care!*"  
"With a mother  
and a father."  
"*I don't care!*"

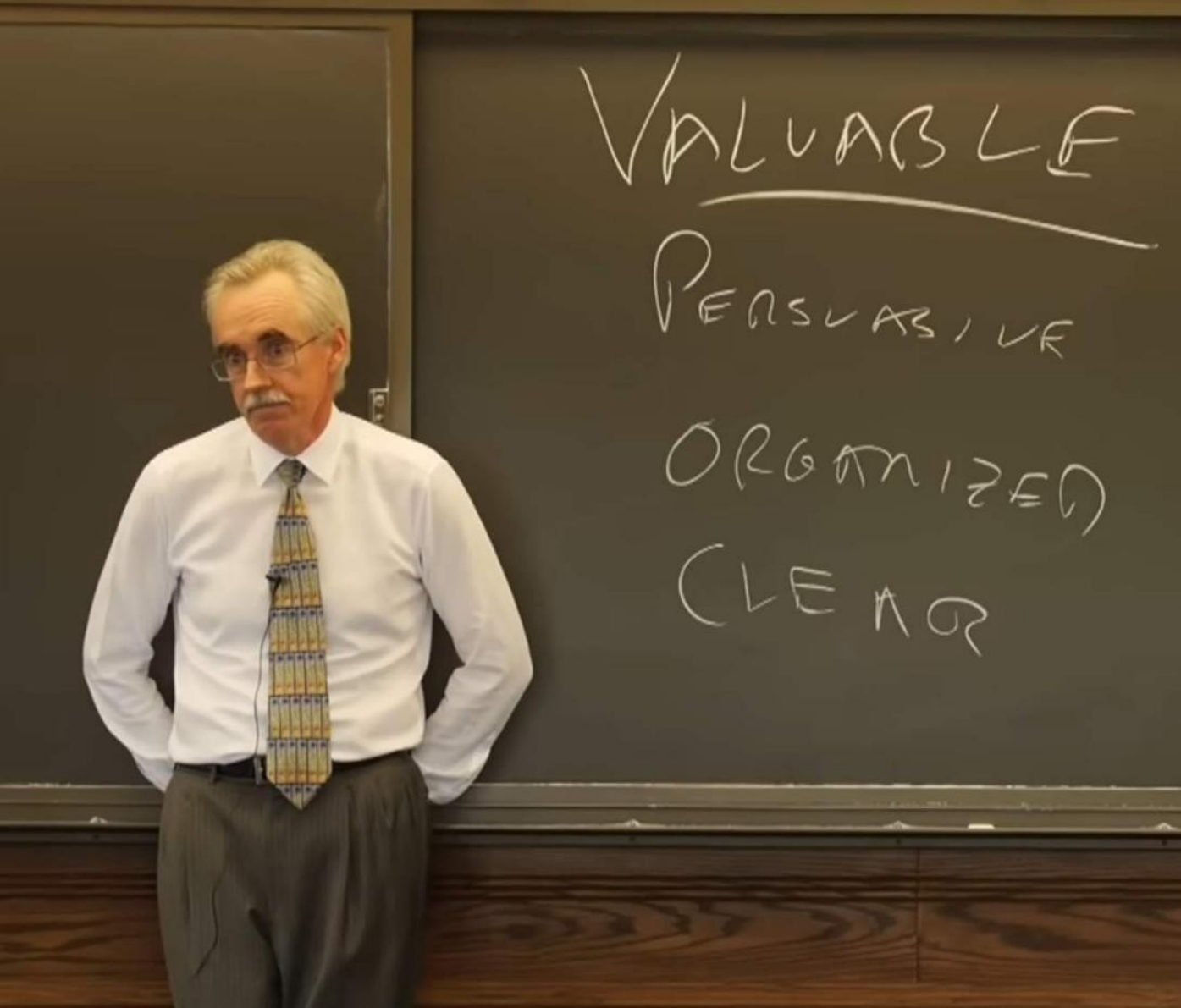
30



His father asked,  
"Are you all right?"  
Pierre said,  
"I am feeling fine,  
please take me home,  
it's half past nine."  
The lion said,  
"If you would care  
to climb on me,  
I'll take you there."  
Then everyone  
looked at Pierre  
who shouted,  
"*Yes, indeed I care!!*"

46





*The Craft of Writing  
Effectively*

**Larry McEnerney**

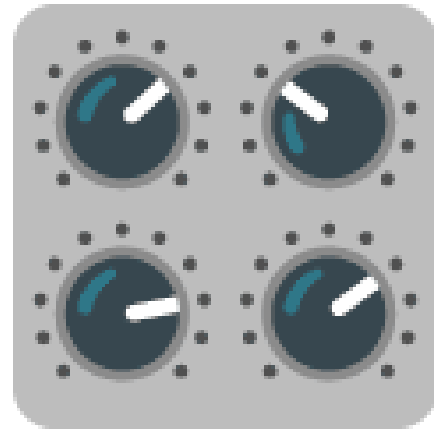




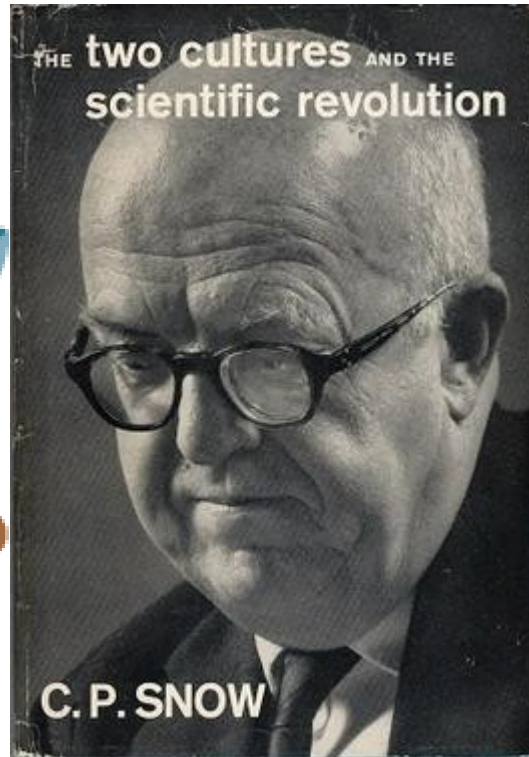
Criteria		Overall	Less than 9th grade	Some high school	High school graduate or equivalent	Some college	Associate degree	Bachelor's degree	Bachelor's degree or more	Master's degree	Professional degree	Doctoral degree
Median annual individual income <sup>[45]</sup>	Male, age 25+	\$52,297	\$29,405	\$32,112	\$41,580	\$49,676	\$53,082	\$70,968	\$78,156	\$89,915	\$135,970	\$112,305
	Female, age 25+	\$40,294	\$20,252	\$21,851	\$28,166	\$32,679	\$35,970	\$50,691	\$56,047	\$61,861	\$88,301	\$87,394
	Age 25+	\$46,985	\$25,162	\$26,092	\$35,540	\$39,362	\$42,391	\$60,705	\$66,432	\$71,851	\$102,741	\$101,526
Median annual household income <sup>[46]</sup>		\$70,308	\$30,355	\$31,326	\$48,708	\$61,911	\$69,573	\$100,164	\$108,646	\$117,439	\$162,127	\$142,347

[https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Household\\_income\\_in\\_the\\_United\\_States#Education\\_and\\_gender](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Household_income_in_the_United_States#Education_and_gender)















**rule #1 motivation first**

**rule #2 teach something portable**

**rule #3 every talk is a job talk**

**rule #4 rules are made to be broken**