

# Practical Management for Career Readiness



# Effective Problem Solving and Decision Making Module 1



with Rob Stone, M.Ed., PMP

# Decision

A choice that you make about something after thinking about it: the result of deciding.

<http://www.merriam-webster.com/dictionary/decision>

# Decision Making

The thought process of selecting a logical choice from the available options

<http://www.businessdictionary.com/definition/decision-making.html>

# Bad or No Choice

- Option 1
- Option 2

# Bad or No Choice

- Option 1
- Option 2
- No choice

# Painting New Cars

Method **A**

Method **B**



# **Decision Making: The Ultimate Guide To Decision Making!**

How To Beat Procrastination, Stop  
Worrying, And Be Decisive To Make  
Critical Decisions With Intuition ...

Productivity, Leadership, Procrastination

a book by **Ryan Cooper**



# Three Key Elements In the Process

- 1. Know your purpose**
- 2. Understand your biases**
- 3. Consider different consequences**

# Three Key Elements In the Process

## **1. Know Your Purpose**

Have \$1,000,000 in accessible assets before retirement

# Three Key Elements In the Process

## **2. Understand your Biases**

Legal considerations, ethical considerations, etc.

# Three Key Elements In the Process

## **3. Consider Different Consequences**

- Keeping our car for a few extra years
- Not purchasing a new Rolex watch
- Taking a vacation every other year



~~NEW CAR~~  
~~DREAM HOME~~  
~~VACATION~~  
~~REMODELING~~  
~~COLLEGE FUND~~  
RETIREMENT

# Problem

A perceived gap between the existing state and a desired state, or a deviation from a norm, standard, or status quo

<http://www.businessdictionary.com/definition/problem.html>

## Examples of A “Problem”

You are gaining weight because you eat badly and do not exercise enough

The exercise method you have chosen does not work well for you

# Problem Solving

The process of working through details of a problem to reach a solution

<http://www.businessdictionary.com/definition/problem-solving.html>



# UCI Extension

## Continuing Education