

Alumni Agora Sessions

April 6 2017

Session 1 (12:40 to 1:25)

Title	Field Name	Description	Max Reg
106 S. - Mitchell - Adventures in Fiction Publishing	Katherine Grill	Adventures in Fiction Publishing – Think you can write a story, publish it on-line, and make a million? USA Today Bestselling novelist Jade Lee brings you stories of how it’s possible and how it’s not. Hint: 50 Shades of Gray started out with a \$100k publicity campaign. The Martian did not.	25
109- Bergandine - Too many people and the reformation of science (A cheerful vision of future Gaia and the collapse of civilization as we know it)	Max Kummerow	I’d like to talk about two interrelated topics. First, a bit of philosophy of science, mentioning complexity, Boyer’s scholarship reconsidered and a crisis for the scientific, Enlightenment worldview I learned at Uni and from my father (U of I professor Fred Kummerow, google him). The Trump election and climate science denial show the need for reformation of the way we do science. Second, I’ve been researching arguments for demographic transitions, meaning below replacement fertility rates, meaning population decline. I’d like to show about 10 slides from this research and mention some major conclusions. Motivation for this retirement research project began during the summer of 1961, between my junior and senior years at Uni. My yearbook quote was “In Guatemala” based on my tales of adventure during a summer job at a World Health Organization nutrition lab.	25
N. Attic - Beesley - Scandal: What is crisis management?	Adam Tiourinie	"Scandal: The Secrets of Crisis Management Adam Tiouririne, crisis advisor at Logos Consulting Group You’ve watched companies like Uber, Chipotle, and Wells Fargo face their worst nightmares over the past few years. But other companies have made it through similar challenges without you hearing about them – why? "	60
106 N. - Mynatt - Ready for an Adventure in Service: Lessons from Work in the Peace Corps	William Fernandez	"Interested in traveling abroad? How about serving your country? Or maybe you just want to learn how to become a next level Zumba teacher? If your answer to any of these questions was yes, then you have the potential of becoming a Peace Corps Volunteer. Current PCV Will Fernandez (Uni High Class of 2011) will share his experiences, projects, and insights from his time in Costa Rica and will answer any questions interested students may have of JFK's legacy agency. ¡Pura Vida!"	20

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218 -Micele- What are the choices you are really making when you pick a college? What should you study?	Sarah Axel	Presented by Sarah M Axel, MD, FAAP (Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics) -- Uni Class of 1977, MIT 1981, UI College of Medicine 1985"	27
210 - Bicknell - Healthcare Careers: More than just Doctors!	Adam Joseph	There are so many more healthcare careers that don't involve becoming a doctor-let's take a look at them! This session will focus primarily on nursing, but will touch on as many healthcare careers as we have time for!	25
205 - Rodems - Fake it 'til you make it and other life strategies from an utterly average Uni graduate.	Lisa Lang	When I first stepped on the hallowed grounds of University High School in 1983, I was in total awe of my teachers and of my classmates. With each passing day, I became more and more convinced that someone would discover that some school official had sent me an acceptance letter by accident. It was at that point I decided to fake it to make it. While there is no magic formula for success, I will share some of my strategies for leading a fulfilled life.	20
206- Smith - Thinking, designing and living in systems	Kevin Nortrup	To most people, “systems” means computer networks and similar technical endeavors. However, General Systems Theory emerged from biological observations of ant colonies, bee hives and web-of-life complexity in ecologies. Understanding companies, institutions and societies as sociotechnical systems – and understanding their interdependencies upon and within the natural environment – is an essential element of navigating the staggering complexity of the modern world. This class gives a brief introduction to Systems Thinking and to some of its implications. *Kevin Nortrup, CSEP, CPHIMS Principal, Sugar Creek Solutions	25
218 - Merf- Top 5 Things I Wish I'd Known In High School	Megan Murphy	Using anecdotal highlights of university (Wash U, University of Queensland Australia, and University of Alaska Fairbanks), professional (environmental science and education, community wellness coalition coordination), and personal experiences (having kids, returning to centennial family farm to experiment with perennial agriculture), will highlight the top 5 life lessons gained thus far after graduating Uni in 1998. Will engage students in self-reflective activity.	25

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Title	Field Name	Description	Max Reg
Faculty - Free Period		This is for Faculty Only. Students who register here will be moved into any other available class.	
Library - Leff - Life as a Teacher, and How I Ended Up Back at Uni High	Ben Leff	If you are interested in becoming a teacher when you grow up, you might appreciate hearing from me (Mr. Leff) about what it is like to be a high school teacher. I'll share about my own experience working at Uni, but I'll also try to shed light on how one would become a teacher at a more "traditional" public school. Finally, I'll share a bit about my experience teaching and managing teachers at Kaplan Test Prep—my gig before I started teaching at Uni.	42
U of I class		Please use this if you have a U of I class during this time period. This will be checked with your schedule.	



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Session 2 (1:35 to 2:20)

Title	Field Name	Description	Max Reg
N. Attic - Rayburn - The Shape of Successful Storytelling	Adam Tiourinie	"Inspire: The Shape of Successful Storytelling Adam Tiourinie, corporate executive coach and developer of Storywaves A good presentation can get people to know what you want, but it takes a good story to get people to do what you want. That requires a clear structure, disciplined order, and compelling rhythm. "	50
211- Consumer Education Topics	Christine Payne	Christine Szabo Payne (Uni 1971) will present consumer ed topics which are relevant for students when they move away from home after high school. Some of the topics covered will be budgeting, buying a used car, renting your first apartment and handling money (checkbook, savings, debit/credit issues). There will be handouts (for future reference) and time for questions.	15
206 - Bandy - My time based in Guam flying for Continental Airlines	Thomas Payne	Continental Airlines 1st Officer Thomas Payne (Uni 1971), retired since 2015, will take you into the cockpit of a 727 he use to fly on trips to/from his Guam base (Air Micronesia) in the late 1980s. There will be time for questions about his career which began with his flight training at Willard Airport/Institute of Aviation to flight instructing to flying all over the world while still living in Philo, IL. If you're interested in an airline career, this presentation is for you.	20
304 - Evans - Love at First Blight: The Joys of Diseased Plants	Diane Plewa Tentative until 3/24	No Description yet	20
106S. - Walkington - Sixty Years (Almost) in Higher Education With (perhaps) a Look at the Sixties and Their Effects on the Modern World	Tom Read	"I graduated from Uni High in 1959, spent four years at a liberal arts college (Oberlin), another four years as a graduate student in mathematics at an Ivy League university (Yale) and the last fifty years as a professor of mathematics at a smaller public university (Western Washington University in Bellingham, Washington). I will discuss American higher education in its several guises and how it has developed/changed since (and possibly before) my Uni High days. If there is interest I could talk about the most tumultuous decade in my lifetime, and how it affected society, both in the short term and half a century later. "	20

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109 - Majerus - Introduction to Money, Investments, and Other Financial Things That Might Make Your Life A Little Easier One Day	Jeff Helfrich	This class will introduce basic concepts of saving, investment, stocks, bonds, and retirement savings vehicles (401ks and IRAs). The goal is to give participants a very basic foundation that will help them make good financial decisions in the future.	25
205 - Lopez - Campus Sustainability at University of Illinois	Morgan Johnston	The U of I signed the Climate Leadership Commitments, pledging to be carbon-neutral by 2050 or as soon as possible, and pledging to work with our community to build resilience to climate change. As the Director of Sustainability at Facilities & Services, here on campus, Morgan Johnston (class of '94) will provide an overview of our progress and strategic initiatives toward meeting those goals.	25
206- Stone - Thinking, designing and living in systems	Kevin Nortrup	"To most people, "systems" means computer networks and similar technical endeavors. However, General Systems Theory emerged from biological observations of ant colonies, bee hives and web-of-life complexity in ecologies. Understanding companies, institutions and societies as sociotechnical systems – and understanding their interdependencies upon and within the natural environment – is an essential element of navigating the staggering complexity of the modern world. This class gives a brief introduction to Systems Thinking and to some of its implications. *Kevin Nortrup, CSEP, CPHIMS Principal, Sugar Creek Solutions "	25
308 - Lauthen - What This Engineer Did After College	Allen Harper	Are you interested in learning what's possible with an Engineering degree? Uni Alumnus Allen Harper is an engineering graduate of the U of I and will talk about some of the more interesting projects with which he was involved during his career in the Aerospace industry. A significant part of that time was spent as a "rocket scientist" so you can get an idea of what such a person does."	25
Faculty Only - Free Period		This is for Faculty only. Any student who registers in this box will be moved to another class.	
Library - Lombardi - How	Lis Pollock	I specialize in criminal defense and serve as an Assistant Federal Public Defender here in Urbana, so I will also tell	40

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the criminal court system works		the students what that job is like and how the criminal court system works in this country.	
S. Attic -Murphy - Fake it 'til you make it and other life strategies from an utterly average Uni graduate.	Lisa Lang	When I first stepped on the hallowed grounds of University High School in 1983, I was in total awe of my teachers and of my classmates. With each passing day, I became more and more convinced that someone would discover that some school official had sent me an acceptance letter by accident. It was at that point I decided to fake it to make it. While there is no magic formula for success, I will share some of my strategies for leading a fulfilled life.	30
U of I class		Please use this if you have a U of I class during this time period. This will be checked with your schedule.	
Micele - Top 5 Things I Wish I'd Known In High School	Megan Murphy	Using anecdotal highlights of university (Wash U, University of Queensland Australia, and University of Alaska Fairbanks), professional (environmental science and education, community wellness coalition coordination), and personal experiences (having kids, returning to centennial family farm to experiment with perennial agriculture), will highlight the top 5 life lessons gained thus far after graduating Uni in 1998. Will engage students in self-reflective activity.	25

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Session 3 (2:30 to 3:15)

Add New Session

Title	Field Name	Description	Max Reg
Lombardi - N. Attic - Trumpish; The Language of Donald Trump	Adam Tiourinie	"Trumpish: How One Man's Language Changed Everything Adam Tiouririne, Bloomberg Politics language analyst and author of Trumpish (forthcoming) Donald Trump talks unlike any normal person, but in ways that are extremely appealing to lots of normal people. His words – emotion, pronouns, and, yes, lies – were the key to his winning presidential campaign. "	35
Library-Sutton - So you want to go to Law School...	Lis Pollock	I will talk about the process of getting admitted to law school, what law school is actually like, and what you can do with a law degree once you're done with school.	35
106 S. - Morford-International Development - Clean Water & Household Energy	Emily Floess	Learn about international work and opportunities as a Peace Corps volunteer and environmental engineer.	20
109 - Life after Uni-- Liberal Arts and the Sciences	Irene Strohbeen	Irene will speak about her journey since leaving Uni, and how the preparation she received in high school was perfect for her liberal arts and STEM education. Although her academic focus was strongly science, math and engineering, her chosen career in consumer packaged goods product development is a very multi-disciplinary field requiring a high level of teamwork and communication skills. This Agora Day presentation will help the audience to understand what goes into developing and commercializing new consumer products.	25
218 - Buck - Healthcare Careers: More than just Doctors!	Adam Joseph	There are so many more healthcare careers that don't involve becoming a doctor-let's take a look at them! This session will focus primarily on nursing, but will touch on as many healthcare careers as we have time for!	25
205 - Nuckolls -	Elizabeth Murphy	Elizabeth Murphy, Class of 1994, will give an overview of the fight by Federal and State agencies to keep invasive	15

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Life as a U.S. Geological Survey Hydrologist		Asian carp out of the Great Lakes. She will focus on the scientific aspects of the efforts but also touch on some of the political considerations. Elizabeth is a hydrologist at the U.S. Geological Survey, Illinois-Iowa Water Science Center. She has been involved with Asian carp projects for the last five years.	
210 - Bild - Life Post-Uni: I still don't know what I'm doing--and that's okay.	Habibullah Monah	""I'm a queer, brown, first-gen, Muslim-American woman. Last month I bought an entire case of Girl Scout cookies, paid bills, went to therapy, made out with my ex, and marathoned Korra. Adulting-wise, I called that a success. If any of that resonates with you or sounds interesting, come say hi over punk rock and cookies."" "	15
309 - Radnitzer - Introduction to Money, Investments, and Other Financial Things That Might Make Your Life A Little Easier One Day	Jeff Helfrich	This class will introduce basic concepts of saving, investment, stocks, bonds, and retirement savings vehicles (401ks and IRAs). The goal is to give participants a very basic foundation that will help them make good financial decisions in the future.	15
206 - Boca - Thinking, designing and living in systems	Kevin Nortrup	To most people, “systems” means computer networks and similar technical endeavors. However, General Systems Theory emerged from biological observations of ant colonies, bee hives and web-of-life complexity in ecologies. Understanding companies, institutions and societies as sociotechnical systems – and understanding their interdependencies upon and within the natural environment – is an essential element of navigating the staggering complexity of the modern world. This class gives a brief introduction to Systems Thinking and to some of its implications. *Kevin Nortrup, CSEP, CPHIMS Principal, Sugar Creek Solutions	25
218- Walkington - What worked in	Daniel Brodsky	"My talk will be primarily about how even back in 1967, getting a high school education and a college degree was no guarantee that you would end up with a job, or at least a job in your chosen field. I hope to give the kids a dose of reality and make them realize that there are a lot of uncertainties in	25

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1967 still works today		life, but that years after they graduate from Uni, they will still appreciate the education they got there. To lighten the topic up, I plan to tell them about the night before our graduation, and the hijinx that ensued. We were quite the gang of desperados....be there. "	
106 N. - Garvey - Underserved Medicine: Practicing Medicine in a Federally Qualified Community Health Center	Audrey Wen	I am a family physician and medical director of a federally qualified community health center in Burlington, Vermont called the Community Health Centers of Burlington . I graduated from Uni in 1997. I would like to talk about my health center and the work we do with underserved/underinsured patients.	1
304 - Majerus - Why do you do what you do?	Noah Isserman	So I've spent a lot of time with world-class folks figuring out (1) what they care about and (2) how to build things that make the world better in ways they care about. This includes: building startups, writing things, getting into college, getting funded (scholarships, grants, venture capital), working with nonprofits and international development, etc. This will be a blunt, friendly, no-BS conversation about what you are doing in life and why— we'll do the same work we do with startup CEOs, Rhodes Scholars, and other ballers. A tiny bit of background: I'm Uni '03, Amherst '07 (neuroscience, soccer, startup), Cambridge Uni (socially responsible finance masters/PhD, Gates Scholar), sold a couple little companies, worked on 6 continents w entrepreneurs/NGOs, currently UIUC professor and running a startup accelerator.	15
308 - What should you study if you might want to go to Medical School? What do you study in Medical School and what do people do	Sarah Axel	Presented by Sarah M Axel, MD, FAAP (Fellow of the American Academy of Pediatrics) -- Uni Class of 1977, MIT 1981, UI College of Medicine 1985	

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after med school?			
Faculty - Free Period		This is for Faculty only. Any student who registers in this box will be moved to another class.	
U of I Class		Please use this if you have a U of I class during this time period. This will be checked with your schedule.	
Varsity Girls Soccer		Varsity Girls Soccer has an early dismissal today. This list will be checked against the team roster.	

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