

CONFIDENTIAL MATERIAL

(NOT FOR STUDENT CONSUMPTION)

Not-Ready-For-Tenure Players:

Suggestions:

1. Please arrive at the party by 5:15 to give us enough time to run through the skit before the performance.
2. Highlight your parts.
3. Have fun!

If you have any questions, please see me.

Marilyn

Faculty/Staff Skit

1992

FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE

Cast

Joyce Allen - Student (Commerical and Musical Office Chairs)
Ralph Baric - Anchor 1
Gerardo Heiss - Faculty (Commercial)
Irva Hertz-Picciotto - Roseanne
Barbara Hulka - Faculty (Commercial)
Lenore Kohlmeier - Faculty (Commercial)
Dana Loomis - Faculty (Commercial)
Lesa McPherson - Faculty (Commercial)
Beth Newman - Announcer
Andy Olshan - Faculty (Musical Office Chairs)
Wayne Rosamond - Game Show Host
Rachel Royce - The Confounders, Emily
David Savitz - Point Counterpoint
Vic Schoenbach - Sales Person
Joan Shields - Staff (Musical Office Chairs)
Carl Shy - Point Counterpoint
Marilyn Vine - Anchor 2
Steve Wing - The Confounders, Game Show Announcer

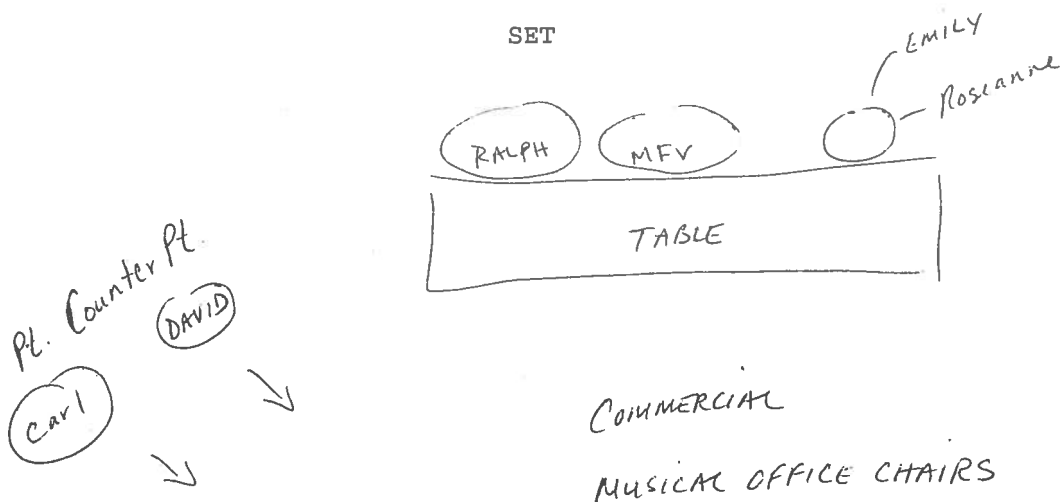
Props:

Commercial

Sign - Grade "H" Epidemiologist (to be worn by student)
5 academic robes
1 knife

Musical Chairs

Signs - Student, Faculty, Staff (to be worn)
2 chairs
1 kazoo
tush cushion



ANNOUNCER: Live from Chapel Hill, it's Friday Night, with the Not-Ready-For-Tenure Players:

(One by one, as the names are announced, the players "run" across the stage and acknowledge the audience. Players enter the stage from the right or left as indicated.)

- r Joyce Allen
- l Ralph Baric
- r Gerardo Heiss
- l Irva Hertz-Picciotto
- r Barbara Hulka
- l Lenore Kohlmeier
- r Dana Loomis
- l Lesa McPherson
- r Beth Newman
- l Andy Olshan
- r Wayne Rosamond
- l Rachel Royce
- r David Savitz
- l Vic Schoenbach
- r Joan Shields
- l Carl Shy
- r Marilyn Vine
- l Steve Wing

and our musical guests, The Confounders
(Steve and Rachel wave from one corner of stage)

ANNOUNCER: But first we go to WEEKEND UPDATE with our co-anchors, Ralph Baric and Marilyn Vine.

ANCHOR 1:
(Ralph)

Our top story tonight - President-elect Bill Clinton confirmed his interest in women's affairs today. Bowing to pressure from the "Save the Breasts Foundation," Clinton announced that he will put an unprecedented amount of money into breast cancer research in the coming year.

A spokesperson from the National Cancer Institute was quoted as saying, "It's nice to see that Mr. Clinton has his eye on issues close to women's hearts."

Dr. Alvan Feinstein was awarded the "Epidemiologist of the Year" award this week by the RJ Reynolds Tobacco Co. for his outstanding research showing that

"bad genes" and not cigarette smoking causes cancer, heart disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease, adverse pregnancy outcomes, poor semen quality, and bad breath. The award was presented to the esteemed epidemiologist at a ceremony in Winston-Salem, N.C. Tuesday night.

Hearing that Dr. Feinstein implicated "bad genes" as a cause of cancer, the Levi Strauss Company has decided to sue Dr. Feinstein for misrepresentation of its merchandise, claiming that the company maintains the strictest quality control on its jean products. More on that story as it develops.

ANCHOR 2:

(Marilyn)

In a surprising turn of events, the Vatican announced today that it is abolishing the ban on condom use among the faithful. The Vatican, not wanting to stray from its position that every intimate act should be open to procreation, but acknowledging the public health concerns of the 90's, has come out with its own line of condoms - Holy Condoms - blessed at the Vatican and personally punctured by the pope.

On a sadder note, Joyce Allen the beloved registrar of the Department of Epidemiology at UNC-Chapel Hill was admitted to a mental institution earlier this week. Apparently the award winning Allen had to face one too many crises. The latest involved the UNC administration's policy of allowing graduate assistants but not teaching assistants to be associated with courses at the graduate level. As Ms. Allen was hauled off to the funny farm, she could be heard singing "You call them GA's and I call them TA's..."

Fortunately, Ms. Allen was released from the institution for tonight's performance.

ANCHOR 1:

Also in the news, the Department of Epidemiology at UNC announced a hiring

freeze this week on skinny, fuzzy haired women from Berkeley to maintain cultural balance in the department.

This announcement follows on the heels of the recent addition to the Department of three new faculty members: Beth Newman, Irva Hertz-Picciotto and Rachel Royce.

Dr. David Savitz reported today on Good Morning America, the Today Show, The Nightly News with Tom Brokaw, Phil Donahue, Sally Jessy Raphael and Oprah that refrigerator magnets may cause brain cancer and leukemia by emitting electromagnetic radiation. Dr. Savitz recommends that the hazardous items be removed from residential dwellings.

ANCHOR 2: In other news - Dr. Barbara Hulka was inducted into the Frequent Flyer Hall of Fame this week. Her protrait will hang beside that of Dr. Al Tyroler who was inducted last year.

Dr. Vic Schoenbach was awarded the "Stop and Smell the Roses Award" by the National Rose Growers Association. Vic was nominated for this award by his family and coworkers who claim that when Vic isn't racing down the hall to his next appointment, he is rapidly tapping away at his computer keyboard, e-mailing colleagues all over the world, stopping neither to eat or sleep. Vic will receive a dozen roses each month for 1 year.

We, here at FRIDAY NIGHT LIVE, feel it is important for us to hear the opinions of our viewers. Here, tonight with an editorial comment is Miss Emily Littella.

EMILY LITTELLA: What's this I hear about the Department of Epidemiology taking several months to find a new chair. With High Point, NC being the capital of the furniture industry in the South, you would think finding a new chair would be easy. In High

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Point, they have a wide selection of armchairs, rocking chairs,

ANCHOR 2: Emily

EMILY LITTELLA: reclining chairs, high chairs ...

ANCHOR 2: Emily, they're looking for the Chairperson for the Department not a new piece of furniture.

EMILY LITTELLA: Oh. Never mind. (To ANCHOR 2) Bitch.

ANCHOR 1: Next, we turn to another of our weekly features, POINT COUNTER-POINT. Here to discuss the pros and cons of modelling, interaction and professorial salaries are Drs. David Kleinbaum and Ken Rothman.

(POINT COUNTERPOINT)

see attached

POINT-COUNTERPOINT

KLEINBAUM VS. ROTHMAN ON MODELING, INTERACTION, AND PROFESSORIAL SALARIES

K. Now, in regard to multivariate modeling, Dr. R., once the variables to be entered into a model are specified, modeling should proceed by assessing the nature of the interaction present in the data before any consideration is given to issues of confounding. Even though the evaluation of interaction is the most difficult to carry out, it is conceptually most important.

R. My recommended modeling strategy, Dr. K., is completely opposite to yours. After defining the variables to be included in the model, the investigator should focus on confounding factors. The goal is to allow for the effect of the confounder so that the effect of exposure is not distorted. If interaction terms involving exposure are added to a model, it becomes difficult to assess the effect of exposure; in fact, if product terms between exposure and other variables are included, a straightforward evaluation of the effect of exposure becomes impossible. A sensible approach is to avoid interaction terms involving exposure unless the evaluation of the effect modification is a specific analytic goal.

K. Ah, so, Dr. R., you obviously have failed to read my textbook - considered to be the Bible for quantitative methods in epidemiologic research - in which I demonstrate that failure to detect key interaction effects in the data

can lead to serious errors in interpreting the exposure-disease relationship under study.

- R. Ah so, yourself, Dr. K., your so-called Bible, being of the Old Testament version, has been superseded by my New Testament, Modern Epidemiology - in which I convincingly overturn the old statistical tenets of significance testing, p values, and the use of multiplicative models to evaluate interactions.
- K. Be careful, Dr. R., it is well known that we live and die in a sea of interactions. Consider, for example, the interaction between years of tenure and commitment to teaching on the level of a professor's salary. That's as overt an example of negative interaction as one can find, and a young aspiring faculty member better evaluate it before she or he gets involved in any academic confounders.
- R. Your example proves my point precisely, Dr. K. If you had carefully specified your variables - salary, tenure, teaching and research - before you began to build your life model, you would have seen that the main effect on salary is research and that teaching is nothing but a nuisance factor that should be discarded from the model on a priori grounds. Your finding of a negative interaction of teaching and tenure on salary is nothing more than a statistical construct that has no epidemiological interpretability.
- K. Well, Dr. R., your career certainly provides us with a model for your conceptualization of the interaction issue. Your organization - Epidemiology Resources, Inc. - makes big

bucks from research that tells the chemical and pharmaceutical industries how great they are. You carefully avoid an interaction with the truth.

R. Now, now, Dr. K., as Pilate said "What is truth". The truth is, you're moving to another institution primarily because the relationship of your teaching to your salary is confounded by your lack of grantsmanship, not by the interaction of your teaching and your tenure. What value is teaching if it doesn't put bread on the table. If you want bread, you do research. If you want teaching awards, you do teaching. Just don't distort the primary outcome of interest - salary level - by the confounding of teaching awards.

K. Well, Dr. R., I've got to hand it to you. You certainly know how to use Occam's knife to cut through the pervading facade of the university as a reservoir of knowledge to be passed on to the next generation. But I remain convinced that the interaction of the right University - Emory in my case - and teaching - has a greater effect on salary than you could ever detect with your simple adjustments for academic confounders.

R. So, Dr. K., you want to have your cake and eat it too. Good luck!

ANCHOR 1: Thank you, Drs. Kleinbaum and Rothman for that thoughtful discussion. We go now to our feature reporter, Roseanne Rosanna-Danna.

ROSEANNE: (chewing gum)

Mr. RJ Reynolds of Fuquay-Varina, NC writes in to ask,

(Reading from a piece of paper)

"How do clean a grundgy computer keyboard?"

(Looking up from paper)

Frankly, I'm glad you brought up the subject, Mr. Reynolds.

Don't you just hate it when you sit down to a public computer and go to put your fingers on the keyboard and discover that it is absolutely filthy? You gotta wonder; where were the hands of the people who used this keyboard before me?

What were these people doing?

I mean, were they picking their nose?

Were they a subject in Dr. Kristen Weigle's diaper changing study?

Were they a data collector for Dr. Marilyn Vine's sperm study.

Were they eating crackers and let the crumbs fall between the keys?

Did Carmen Woody use the computer after she finished squeezing the sticky, gooey innerds out of her donut?

Well, you know; it's always somethin'.

ANCHOR 2: Thank you, Roseanne, for those insightful comments.

Now, we are pleased to welcome our musical guests, The Confounders.

(The Confounders play 2 songs at the same time on different instruments:
Steve - piano, Rachel - flute.)

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ANCHOR 2: Thank you for that wonderful musical commentary on the diversity of epidemiologic thought.

Well, I'm getting that signal from the director. We're going to have to break now for a word from our sponsor.

(COMMERCIAL)

(Salesperson, 5 faculty members (dressed in academic robes) and a student. The faculty members stand behind the student - center stage.)

SALES PERSON: (dressed as a used car salesman)

Perspective employers - NIH, CDC, Medical Schools and Schools of Public Health - looking for a quality epidemiologist?

A real life Medical Detective?

One who can create study designs that will astound you?

Perform statistical analyses that will confound you?

And develop public health inferences that will hound you?

We, here, at the University of North Carolina produce only the best grade "H" epidemiologists.

Tested to perfection and inspected by a committee of 5.

COMMITTEE FACULTY MEMBER: They don't say epidemiologist until we say they say
(Lenore) epidemiologist.

(A Committee Member (Lesa McPherson) puts a sign on the student that says, "Grade H Epidemiologist.")

SALES PERSON: Epidemiologists are on sale now through Christmas.

Only \$19.95 (pause) per hour, plus \$400 shipping and handling.

Order now and get the Ginzu knife free. (Show knife.)

The number is 1-800-555-EPID.

Operators are standing by to take your call.

Mastercharge and Visa accepted.

Void where prohibited by law.

ANCHOR 1: OK, we're back. Finally, in the news tonight - Good news for the Department of Epidemiology! The Student Room, once a boring place where students studied, will be turned into the Faculty Espresso Bar. Discretionary funds, previously used for student scholarships, will be used to renevatate the student room and stock the bar.

Dramatic commentary on the office space issue in the Department is provided by the not-ready-for-tenure-players.

(MUSICAL OFFICE CHAIRS)

(Two chairs are placed on the stage - one facing forward and one facing backward. A faculty member, staff member and a student (labelled as such) stand near the chairs - center stage.)

GAME SHOW HOST: (To the 3 representatives) Welcome to Musical Office Chairs, the high stakes game, where the winner can come away with an office with a window, and the loser, well, you know, the usual parting gifts. You 3 contestants are representing your respective groups - the faculty, the staff and the students of the Department of Epidemiology at UNC. As you know, office space in the Department is limited. The results of this game will determine who gets office space and who does not. Are you ready?

CONTESTANTS: (enthusiastically and jumping up and down) YES!

ANNOUNCER: Just to refresh your memories, the rules of the game are as follows. We'll play some music and you 3 contestants will walk around the 2 chairs you see behind you. When the music stops, each of you must try to sit on one of the 2 chairs. We will then remove one chair and the 2 contestants who survive

the first round will battle it out to determine who is the Grand Prize winner. Everyone understand the rules?

CONTESTANTS: (nod yes)

ANNOUNCER: OK, Johnny, start the music.

(Kazoo plays Pop Goes the Weasel. Contestants walk around the chairs. When the music stops, the student and the staff member are seated. The faculty member stairs at the student who gives up her seat. The faculty member sits.)

(To student) Ooooooh, I'm sorry. You've been eliminated from this round of Muscial Office Chairs. Please step over here (escorting student to side of stage) while we determine the Grand Prize Winner.

(Student steps aside. Game Show Host removes chair facing backward.)

OK, are we ready for round 2?

CONTESTANTS: Yeeees!

GAME SHOW HOST: Johnny start the music.

(Kazoo plays Pop Goes the Weasel)

(When music stops, staff member goes to sit in chair, looks at faculty and decides not to sit down. Faculty member sits in chair.)

(To staff member)

Ooooooh, I'm sorry you didn't win the Grand Prize, but we have

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lovely gifts for all of our contestants. Now, if each of you will step over here (all 3 contestants line up facing audience, center stage), Johnny will tell you what you've won.

GAME SHOW ANNOUNCER: (from offstage)

For our our third place finisher, (student steps forward), no office space, but from the Existential Furniture Company, we have a folding tray table, folding chair and tush cushion, perfect for the student who needs to be able to study anywhere and everywhere.

In addition, you will receive a portable microwave, a portable refrigerator and a portable e-mail terminal.

For our second place finisher (staff member steps forward), we have an office with a view of the person next to her, and the home version of Musical Office Chairs, complete with 2 chairs and a kazoo. The home version can help solve such space problems as which child gets a bedroom.

Our Grand Prize winner (faculty member steps forward) will receive an office with a view of the construction of the new School of Social Work.

GAME SHOW HOST: Thank you all for playing Musical Office Chairs.

(Musical Office Chairs contestants, Game Show Host and chairs exit stage.)

ANCHOR 2: That's all the news for now. From all of us at Friday Night Live, Good night and have a pleasant tomorrow.