BYU Mission

• The mission of Brigham Young University is "to assist individuals in their quest for perfection and eternal life."
• To this end, BYU seeks to develop students of faith, intellect, and character who have the skills and the desire to continue learning and to serve others throughout their lives.
• These are the common aims of all education at BYU. Both those who teach in the classroom and those who direct activities outside the classroom are responsible for contributing to this complete educational vision.

BYU Mission (cont.)

A BYU education should be:
1. Spiritually strengthening
2. Intellectually enlarging
3. Character building, leading to
4. Lifelong learning and service.

[The] intent [is] to envelop BYU's intellectual aims within a more complete, even eternal, perspective that begins with spiritual knowledge and ends with knowledge applied to the practical tasks of living and serving.

I'd rather be good than great!

Harvey Fletcher
Dean's Lecture
September 6, 1979
Age: 95

It is sometimes easy to set short term goals (i.e., mission, marriage, college education)...

... but then what?

What do you want people to say about you at your funeral?

Joe ChemE
Left home Jan 7, 1986
Returned home July 21, 2067
R I P
The average person dies 4 years after retirement...

Harvey Fletcher
Interview at Bell Labs ~1963
Age: 79

If you fail to plan...
...you plan to fail!

You will be outdated every 5-7 years...
...and change jobs 2-5 times!

So How Do You Keep Learning in Your Career?

- Professional Meetings (AIChE, ACS, ASME, SPE, etc.)
- Short Courses
  - Through professional societies
  - Universities
  - Companies
- Trade Journals
- Company Experts

Keep the Axe SHARP!

You are a lot more valuable as an employee with up-to-date tools and information!
Graduate School

• What is graduate school?
  – Differences between undergrad and grad work
  – MS, PhD, professional school, …
• Why should I consider it?
• Will I enjoy it?
• What will I learn?
  – In-depth work
  – Research
  – Problem solving
• How can I afford to go to school?
• When should I go?

He who has the most toys at the end of the world…

…wins?

I've never seen luggage racks on a hearse…

President Thomas S. Monson

50 things I want to do before I die…

Harvey J. Fletcher
(my dad)

I Think God Has A Sense of Humor

But behold, all things have been done in the wisdom of him who knoweth all things
(2 Nephi 2:24)

When they are learned they think they are wise, and they hearken not unto the counsel of God, for they set it aside, supposing they know of themselves, wherefore, their wisdom is foolishness and it profiteth them not.
(2 Nephi 9:28)

Science and Religion

Harvey Fletcher

Leopold Stokowski with Dr. Harvey Fletcher
D&C 88:107

…seek ye diligently and teach one another words of wisdom; yea, seek ye out of the best books words of wisdom; seek learning, even by study and also by faith.

Assignment

Write a lifelong learning plan (due Dec. 1)
  – Be creative!
  – All aspects of your life
  – Could be 50 things I want to do…
  – Could be your plan for eternal life
  – Could be how to keep yourself
    • Morally straight
    • Physically strong
    • Mentally awake