

**Words of Wisdom in Professionalism and Scholarship**  
**4 Cheap Tricks for Job Placement**  
**Creating an Interesting Life for Yourself**  
Lucinda Lawrence

**Wisdom in Professionalism and Scholarship, often implied, but too rarely said**

- a. **Honesty and integrity** in your work and home are important; they will help you live well.
- b. **Use your network** – but don't abuse it; give credit as due; ask for and acknowledge assistance; involve others; make/send thank-you's in a timely manner.
- c. You have a position of authority and responsibility – **be a leader with character, not an authoritarian or power monger. Bringing out the best in others usually brings out *your* best.** I've had the privilege of working with good leaders/teachers. Whenever there has been a dicey situation, one among the group will ask the question, "What is in the best interest of the student(s)?" and the answer to that question never fails to point immediately and directly to the best possible solution.
- d. Following two pillars of CHARACTER fill life with direction and goodness: 1) **The Golden Rule** (Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.); and 2) LL's mom's concept that applies to people of all faiths and non-faith: **the only *real* sin is not using, to the best of our abilities, that which we are given in heritage and environment (i.e. nature/nurture) to make our world a better place for those around us now and for those who will follow.**
- e. **Document accomplishments** and progress; pass this along to your superior(s) at least annually as ammunition for her/him to promote the program and acquire funding. [For directors: express booster annual budget in terms of "matching" district funds; use "in kind".]
- f. **Words by which to live.**
  - ~ (Lucinda's mom:) **i.** "Always prepare for the worst, hope for the best, and just take (/make the most of) whatever happens." **ii.** "It's what you do with what you've got that pays off in the end."
  - ~ (Lucinda's dad:) **iii.** "Always live beneath your means, and borrow [money, etc.] *only* when doing so will pay off in the long run."
  - ~ (Lucinda's sister:) **iv.** "Half of my usual day is spent on the business side: most don't realize that to really become a successful artist, the business side is as important as the actual art, though you can pay an agent to do that for you." LL: I think this probably applies not only to being an artist, but to every profession. Even a factory worker producing widgets gives attention to the business side, meeting a daily quota, for example, and avoiding interrupting the production level of the assembly line.
  - ~ ("Lucinda's 4" concerning **savings, risk, value, and luck**;) **v.** "Save early; save often." The beauty of compounding interest applies for funds *and* files, but with digital files the curve goes quickly and sharply downward to negative territory if we fail to SAVE early/SAVE often. **vi.** "Consider RISK MANAGEMENT in terms of things for which we can purchase insurance and for non-insurable things in life... and consider the potential consequences of *not* taking risks." **vii.** "Be judgmental: seek *value* in filling your time, mind, body, and soul." **viii.** "I define being lucky as 1) first spotting an opportunity; 2) judging its value in terms of potential, including whether or not it might be a detour or distraction (there might be a reason it is a path less traveled); 3) being positioned – ready, willing, and able – to take the opportunity; and 4) taking the opportunity in a timely manner."
- g. **Good manners, good grooming, good language** go a long way. **LL's CHEAP TRICKS for Job Placement** (*see next page*)

**LL's CHEAP TRICKS for  
JOB PLACEMENT**

**CHEAP TRICK #1**

**Use the word “like” in simile and NOT  
as an interjection.**

E.g. 1¢ per *like* infraction through July 8;  
5¢ per *like* infraction July 11-15;  
10¢ per *like* infraction July 18-22...  
We *won't* have to get to quarters, will we?

**LL's CHEAP TRICKS for  
JOB PLACEMENT**

**CHEAP TRICK #2**

**Empower your language by avoiding  
the following:**

**like  
maybe  
and um  
ya know**

**Just try it; see how far you can get without these!**

**LL's CHEAP TRICKS for  
JOB PLACEMENT**

**CHEAP TRICK #3**

**Use correct grammar:**

do not end a sentence or phrase in a preposition;

use pronouns correctly for subjects and objects;

make subject and verb agree (both singular or both plural).

**LL's CHEAP TRICKS for  
JOB PLACEMENT**

**CHEAP TRICK #4**

**Good GROOMING makes a good first  
impression;**

**Good MANNERS make a lasting good  
impression.**

Write your 5-year hence “fantasy-but-possible” biography statement – 1 or 2 sentences – then put this away where you will find it in several years.