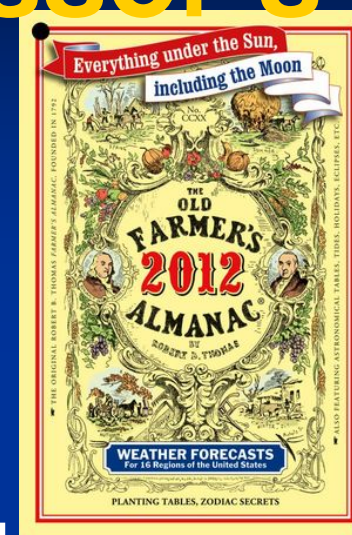


Sayings from the Professor's Almanac

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AERE session titled "Top Ten Tips for Young Economists" at the SEA meetings
November 19-21, 2011 in Washington, DC

Let Your Light Shine



- Talk to people – department, profession
- Learn what colleagues do - tell what you do
 - Where to submit papers?
 - Interpreting editors' letters & referees' reports
- Go to conferences, participate in sessions
- Others with similar interests – promotion letters

Two Heads Are Better than One



- Talk to people – department, profession
- Shape your ideas – 5 minute test
- Decisions about allocating time & energy – fruitful or dead end?
- Econometric advice, related research, no wheel reinvention
- Co-author?

When in Rome, Do as the Romans

Know what is valued where you are

- Teaching evaluation numbers, UG student papers
- Directing grad student work
- Service & applied research with local community
- Research top peer-reviewed journals - which?



Keep Your Eye on the Prize



Tenure? Position? Location?

- Time flies! Clock ticks.
- To be accepted, papers must be submitted.
- Lags can be long – reviews, revisions, resubmits
- Beware! paralysis of perfection kills

Don't Put All Eggs in One Basket



Randomness → Risk → Diversify

- Number of activities
- Anchor publications – Rome & profession define
- Supporting publications for anchors
- New teaching technique in all courses
- All or nothing risks flop

Cream Rises to the Top



Market works!

- Produce what it takes to get where you want to be
- First placement is not necessarily the last
- Up & down within academe, gov't, think tank, consulting
- Moves across academe, public sector, private

Be Your Own Boss



PhD! Talent! Use! Entrepreneur!

- Choose – produce, then you control
- Be ready for change. It's our business.
- Bored? Jimmy Buffett says "It's my own ..."
- Learn new techniques, new course
- Sabbatical – NEW place & people

Success? Doing What You Want to Do!



All jobs: + & -

- Research university: + most stimulating - pub or perish
- Liberal arts college: + great students – low pay
- Gov't: Data & policy – bureaucracy
- Do your thing!