

Tom & TOO! BAD!

File: Psychology

From: John Raich (1/13/95)
To: JUD HARPER
CC: Cheryl Peregoy
Subject: OFFICE MEMO FWD>Life, Lemonade, and Landy
Time: 10:34 AM
Date: 1/13/95

Jud:

Here is the latest word on Frank Landy via Scott Hamilton. I appreciate Scott's counseling psychology approach to breaking the bad news that Landy will not be coming to Colorado State University. In some ways, this reduces our financial problems and there will be other opportunities to invest our scarce resources.

John

Date: 1/13/95 10:33 AM
From: Scott Hamilton

One of my graduate students and I once developed a new form of psychotherapy called "Platitude Therapy". Essentially, you listen to the client droan on about their problems and you (the therapist) periodically pipe in with a platitude like "every cloud has a silver lining" or "when life throws you lemons, make lemonade." Hallmark cards has several of their staff members working day and night in an attempt to keep platitude therapists supplied with their tools of trade.

Yesterday, I had a long telephone conversation with Frank Landy, who after experiencing several long and frustrating months trying to wrap up his obligations to CABS at Penn State, has now moved to Boulder, bought a home in the mountains (near Nederland), and relocated his consulting firm (Landy, Jacobs, and Associates). Based on his official retirement from Penn State, the frustrations in dealing with this institution surrounding his resignation from CABS, his move to Boulder, and the smell of fresh Rocky Mountain pines, Frank has had time to do some soul-searching in an attempt to decide what he wants to do with the rest of his life. As it relates to CSU, Frank has decided that he likes the freedom of being self-employed, and that does not want to work for anyone again (including any university or business). This does not mean that he doesn't want to be involved with the CSU Dept. of Psychology - he is interested in teaching, supervising, employing students, etc. However, as far as building another CABS at CSU, Frank has "painfully" decided that this is not what he wants. Bottom line: Frank is alive (i.e, it seems like he has really come to grips with some "quality of life" issues) but the idea of a formal Center like CABS at CSU is dead.

Well, being an old platitude therapist, the saying, "when life throws you lemons, make lemondade" comes to mind at times like this. The downside: considerable time and effort went into trying to put this deal together; the upside: it's probably best that Frank gained clarity now rather than later - - we have also forged a relationship with Landy that will continue to benefit graduate students and faculty in the years to come. Let me make it clear that Frank feels very badly about "letting folks at CSU down" - he especially appreciated all the time and effort that you and Jud put into trying to make the CSU CABS a reality. The Department of Psychology faculty also appreciate your efforts and your willingness to join us in taking a gamble.

So, let's make a toast and drink lemonade: "To Life, Lemonade, and Landy; We win, we lose, but let us always play the game with gusto."

I will be putting out a memo to faculty and let me know how you would like me to inform Jud. Thanks again for all your help - - we gave it our best shot!

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