

Random Thoughts . . .

SPEAKING OF EVERYTHING – II

RICHARD M. FELDER

North Carolina State University • Raleigh, NC 27695

- ▶ There is always an easy solution to every human problem—neat, plausible, and wrong. • *H.L. Mencken*
- ▶ The problem is not that there are problems. The problem is expecting otherwise and thinking that having problems is a problem. • *Theodore Rubin*
- ▶ If you had to identify, in one word, the reason why the human race has not achieved, and never will achieve, its full potential, that word would be “meetings.” • *Dave Barry*
- ▶ I went to a restaurant that serves “breakfast at any time.” So I ordered French Toast during the Renaissance. • *Steven Wright*
- ▶ Do unto yourself as your neighbors do unto themselves, and look pleasant. • *George Ade*
- ▶ I went to a bookstore and asked the saleswoman, “Where’s the self-help section?” She said if she told me, it would defeat the purpose. • *George Carlin*
- ▶ Every prayer reduces itself to this: Great God, grant that two plus two not equal four. • *Ivan Turgenev*
- ▶ The intellect of man is forced to choose Perfection of the life, or of the work • *W.B. Yeats*
- ▶ Students achieving oneness will move ahead to twoness. • *Woody Allen*
- ▶ Middle age is having a choice between two temptations and choosing the one that’ll get you home earlier. • *Dan Bennett*
- ▶ 42.7 percent of all statistics are made up on the spot. • *Steven Wright*
- ▶ The causes we know everything about depend on causes we know very little about, which depend on causes we know absolutely nothing about. • *Tom Stoppard*
- ▶ Buying the right computer and getting it to work properly is no more complicated than building a nuclear reactor from wristwatch parts in a darkened room using only your teeth. • *Dave Barry*
- ▶ Hemingway said a long time ago—and I subscribe to it—that a smart writer quits for the day when he’s really steaming, when he knows it’s good and knows where it’s going. If you can do that, you’ve fought half the next day’s battle. • *James Michener*
- ▶ How can I know what I think until I see what I say? • *W.H. Auden*
- ▶ From the moment I picked your book up until I put it down I was convulsed with laughter. Some day I intend reading it. • *Groucho Marx*
- ▶ If a politician tells you he’s going to make a “realistic decision,” you immediately understand that he’s resolved to do something bad. • *Mary McCarthy*
- ▶ The whole aim of practical politics is to keep the populace in a continual state of alarm (and hence clamorous to be led to safety) by menacing them with an endless series of hobgoblins, all of them imaginary. • *H.L. Mencken*
- ▶ A fanatic is a man who does what he thinks the Lord would do if he knew the facts of the case. • *Finley Peter Dunne*
- ▶ I have had a perfectly wonderful evening, but this wasn’t it. • *Groucho Marx*
- ▶ Having a dog teaches a boy fidelity, perseverance, and to turn around three times before lying down. • *Robert Benchley*
- ▶ My esteem in this country has gone up substantially. It is very nice now that when people wave at me they use all their fingers • *Jimmy Carter*
- ▶ I intend to live forever. So far, so good. • *Steven Wright*



Richard M. Felder is Hoechst Celanese Professor Emeritus of Chemical Engineering at North Carolina State University. He received his BChE from City College of CUNY and his PhD from Princeton. He is coauthor of the text *Elementary Principles of Chemical Processes* (Wiley, 2000) and codirector of the ASEE National Effective Teaching Institute.