

"Testimonial" follows:

Professor Schubert made the key difference to my life in science. Looking back, I could put two or three mentors into the category 'most influential,' but Jerry was the first. Without his guidance my subsequent career steps would not have happened.

I began working with Jerry as a graduate student in 1978 after early academic stumbles, feeling doubtful that I could successfully navigate the world of scientific research. Jerry showed me how it was done--not by prescribing a step-by-step recipe, but rather by suggesting a PhD thesis problem and then VERY patiently letting me figure out how to solve it. After graduation I enjoyed a postdoctoral fellowship at the National Center for Atmospheric Research and began meeting those other 'most influential' mentors.

You may wonder how I came to apply for that NCAR fellowship if I lacked confidence in my research abilities. The answer: Jerry made me do it! I remember deciding that even though I had no chance of acceptance, submitting the application would be less annoying than enduring Jerry's constant pestering about it.

Of course it's not possible to know what would have happened in a parallel universe in which Jerry and I never met. Quite possibly my life would have been as happy and fulfilling as it actually has been. Nevertheless, I'm eternally grateful to be in the universe where we connected.