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AP Chem Period 4

I enjoyed the opportunity to be apart of the interview with John Delano. He is a very interesting individual who has had many life experiences that he was thrilled to share with us. It really caught my attention how he first became interested in astrology while watching a shooting star at a very young age. I thought it was very interesting that he was so moved by something that usually would capture a young boy's attention for merely a minute. Also, he spent a few years in Australia studying, and has always been very involved with his career, currently by being associated with the Dudley Observatory and SUNY Albany.

Professor Delano made me see things from a different perspective. He has analyzed dinosaur footprints in-depth. Rather than just trying to name the type of dinosaur by analyzing its footprints, he goes beyond the basics. Professor Delano explained to us that you can tell so much about a footprint. For instance, while studying dinosaur footprints, he was able to determine a plethora of things about the animal, such as if it was relaxed, whether it was a male or female, what mood it was in that day, how tall it was, and what it ate. This was a different way of looking at a footprint to me, because when I think of footprints I usually only associate them with how big of a foot the creature has, rather than uncovering the rest of its story. Likewise, Professor John Delano has studied soil samples, in which he tried to figure out how all of the particles present in the soil ended up at that specific location. I found all of these seemingly brief topics of study very amusing and more profound than they appear to be.

Professor Delano is quite motivational since he tried to convey to us that your career should not be considered work to you. If your job is entertaining and you're happy to be doing it, then you will never have to work a day in your life. John Delano not only preached this message to us, but he also lives by his words. Just by meeting him for an hour and a half, I was able to distinguish that he truly enjoys his career. He is a great example of an individual who has followed his dreams. Like he said himself, if he didn't enjoy his job he would be "burnt out" by now. However, he obviously loves doing what he does since he still teaches at SUNY Albany and is continuing his studies even when he is of retirement age.

It was a pleasure to conduct the interview with Professor Delano. He is a polished speaker, and was able to convey his thoughts in a way that all of us could understand. Professor Delano detailed all of his responses to the extent where I was able to get a good sense of exactly what he was talking about. I also liked that he was very animated and had a good sense of humor. Normally, I am not extremely interested in oxidation states, footprints, or astronomy, but I still was very intrigued by listening to John Delano speak.