

Growing a Technical Career in Statistics

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A little about Gerry Hahn

Retired in 2001 after 46 years with General Electric

Authored 4 books and > 100 papers

Organized the ASA Quality & Productivity Section and was the 1st Chair

Awards include

- ASA Fellow and ASQ Fellow
- Jack Youden Prize, ASQ, 1970
- Brumbaugh Award, ASQ, 1974, 1980, and 1982
- Shewell Prize, ASQ, 1975 and 1989
- Wilcoxon Prize, ASQ, 1979, 1988
- William G. Hunter Award, ASQ, 1991
- Shewhart Medal, ASQ, 1992
- Deming Medal, ASQ, 1994
- ASQ Distinguished Service Medal, 2004
- George Box Medal, European Network for Business and Industrial Statistics, 2006



GE Research Applied Statistics Alumni Dinner, 2017

A fun interview with Gerry is here:

<https://magazine.amstat.org/blog/2018/11/01/pastimes-gerry-hahn/>

Why I Like Being a Statistician

So much **Flexibility** in application areas

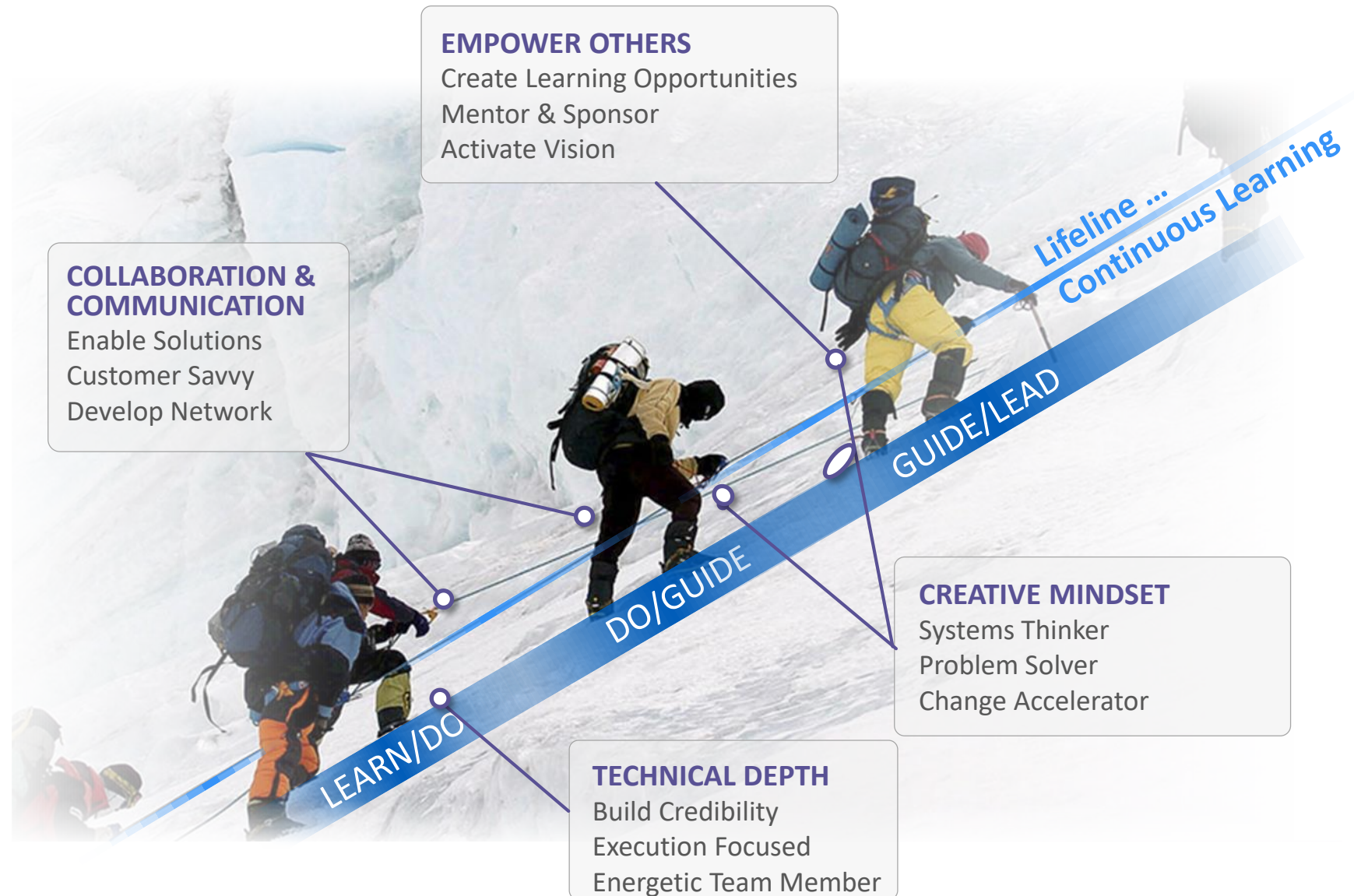
Get to **Collaborate** with experts in other fields

People are always **Curious** about what you do 😊

Strong **Network** with other statisticians

Get to have **Fun** solving problems

Agenda: Thoughts on Growing a Technical Career in Statistics



Technical Depth

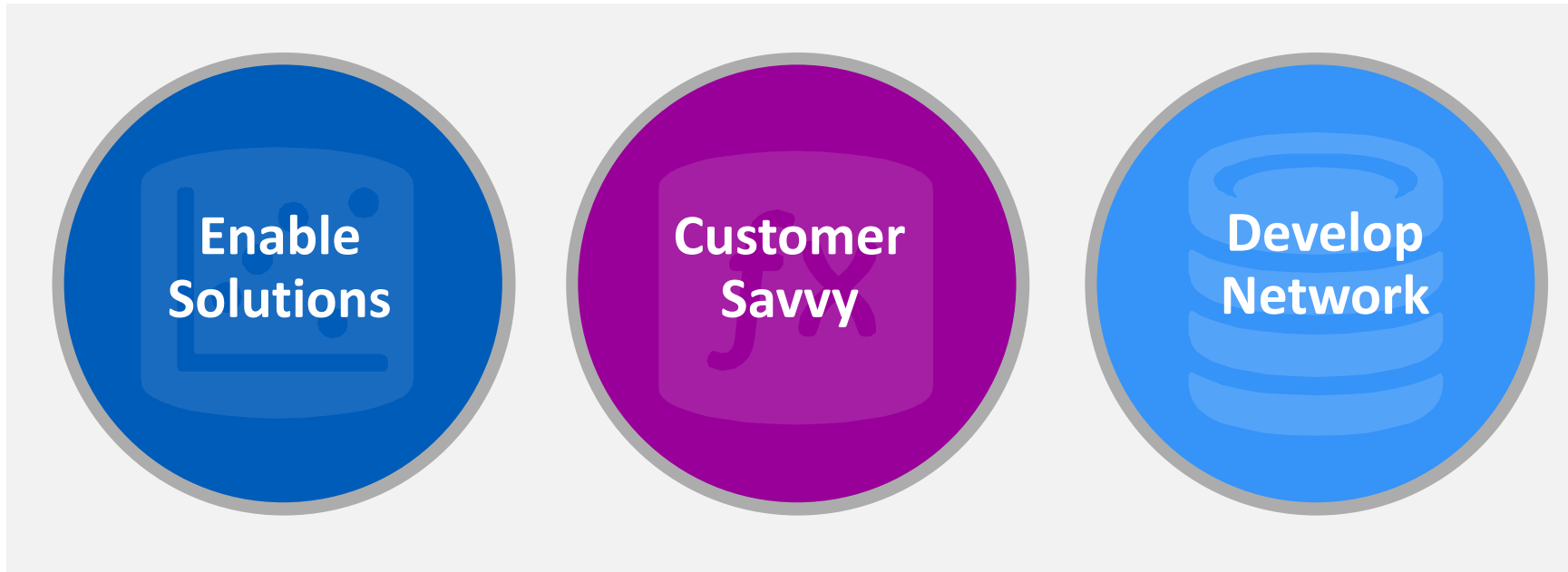


Ask questions to clarify problems, be clear about your hypotheses and approach, and make suggestions for improvement

Always deliver what you say you will by when you say you will and be proactive in speaking up if that is impacted.

Learn about your organization, where you fit in, and what is needed from you, be a “go-to” person

Collaboration & Communication



Beyond executing statistical analysis, need to help identify and deploy solutions.

Customers can be internal and/or external: actively listen to understand problems and their needs.

Develop internal and external relationships that leverage your organization in the community and/or marketplace.

Creative Mindset



**Systems
Thinker**

**Problem
Solver**

**Change
Accelerator**

**Identify what is the
right problem to be
solved – turn the
general problem into
the statistical problem**

**Have an approach for
how you solve
problems and apply it
consistently**

**Learn to frame the
shared need, shape a
vision, mobilize
commitment, and
monitor progress**

Empower Others



Share your skills while recognizing people learn in different ways

Help others develop and reach their career goals, formally or informally

Lead or contribute to the development of your organization's vision and be a champion for it

Other Suggestions for a Successful Career in Statistics

Be Open to New Opportunities

Stay in Touch with Your Network

Learn When to Say "Yes" and When to Say "No"

Take Vacation

Continue to Upskill