

Choosing a School/Advisor

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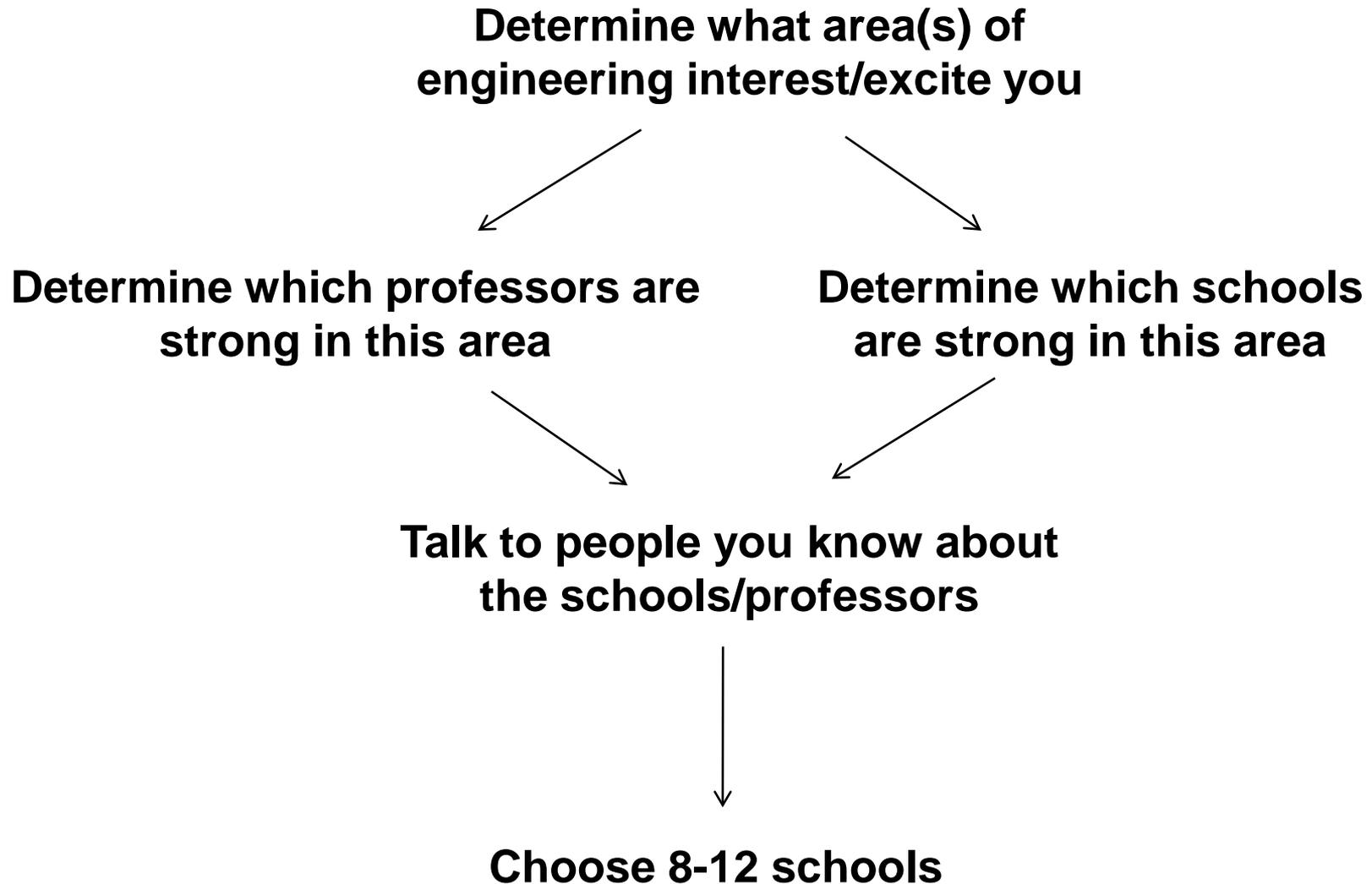
The Mork Family

Department of Chemical Engineering and Materials Science

Ming Hsieh

Department of Electrical Engineering





Read primary literature (and non-primary literature)

- Journals like: Nature family, Science
- Department websites
- Society bulletins (ACS, AIChE, IEEE, MRS)
- Science blogs/websites (Wired)
- Go to department seminars
- Talk with faculty and graduate students
- Do research

Determine what type of research interests you more:

- Experimental vs. Theoretical?
- Working independently or as a group?
- Interdisciplinary? (can be out of your comfort zone)

Finding a professor who is doing that research:

- Do literature searches – Who publishes? Who is writing review articles?
- Talk with your professors
- Look at department websites: look at websites both in Chem E and in other fields

Look at the top 15-30 schools

- Look at top schools in engineering and in individual fields
- The top schools rotate frequently, as the ranking is very dependent on funding which fluctuates
- Look at the degree requirements

Choosing a professor:

- Talk with people about the professor
- Consider if you want to be in a large or a small research group
- Consider if you want a lot of attention or if you want to work more independently
- Look at the make-up of the professor's current research group

Choosing a school:

- Apply to the PhD degree program which best suits your academic background
- Apply to a school where there are at least 3 profs that you would want to work for