

9/10 Study Guide Questions

- What do we know about nonprofits? What don't we know?
- How would you characterize/describe the 6 theories of explanation for the presence of the nonprofit sector?
- Which sector origin theories do you find most compelling and why? Which most flawed and why? In your experience and knowledge of actual nonprofits, which most operative? Provide evidence to bolster your responses/argument. Why do you find the "three failures" framework compelling and persuasive? In what ways might you find its analysis problematic and unhelpful?
- What nonprofit endeavor have you thought/daydreamed of starting, and which theory of origin would most fit your start-up, and why?
- In Tolstoy's story, in what ways do you think the hermit's answers to the three questions (Right time to act? Who most in need or most necessary? Most important/necessary thing to do?) makes for effective service? In what ways ineffective service, and why?
- Is charity simply a band-aid? Does it simply keep in place an arguably inequitable status quo? What are the links/disconnects between charity or almsgiving and social change or social-justice?

Potential questions for Clint Mabie of the Community Foundation for Southern Arizona

- Do you agree that the nonprofit sector gets what business and government can't solve, fails at, or messes up? Why or why not?
- What is the greatest value of the nonprofit sector to a community, the economy, a culture?
- Is the nonprofit sector in AZ "over-built," with too many nonprofits with duplicative costs providing too little bang-for-the-buck? And if so, what is the CFSA's response to this "non-rationalized" sector of the economy?
- What current emerging trends/debates are happening in the nonprofit sector? What possible consequences/implications/scenarios arise from these? Your assessment of their value?
- To whom is a nonprofit most accountable, and why?
- What is the purpose and value of a community foundation (why do they exist)? And why should someone contribute to them?
- Why are you dedicating your professional life to the nonprofit sector? What BHAG do you want the sector in Tucson to achieve? And what measure of success will tell you that the local sector is on the right track to achieve that?
- What engages and energizes you in your work? What doesn't, and how do you manage that?
- Any advice for people entering the profession? Any tools or resources that you've found useful?