## APPENDIX C

### Most Frequently Used Idioms in Each of Three Corpora of Spoken American English (in Order of Frequency)

#### Professional Corpus

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Idiom</th>
<th>Idiom</th>
<th>Idiom</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>in terms of</td>
<td>go with</td>
<td>put up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>deal with</td>
<td>end up</td>
<td>regardless</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>sort of</td>
<td>call for</td>
<td>give up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>kind of</td>
<td>as (so) long as</td>
<td>in touch with</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in fact</td>
<td>pick up</td>
<td>in someone’s view</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>make sure</td>
<td>get back to</td>
<td>make a difference</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>go on</td>
<td>put out</td>
<td>no matter (wh- clause)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>of course</td>
<td>according to</td>
<td>in charge of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>as well</td>
<td>get on</td>
<td>once again</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>come up</td>
<td>go over</td>
<td>touch on</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>go through</td>
<td>turn out</td>
<td>go off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>at all</td>
<td>go along (with)</td>
<td>all along</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>as well as</td>
<td>on one’s own</td>
<td>in case</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>look for</td>
<td>in effect</td>
<td>for sure/certain</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>with/in respect to</td>
<td>back and forth</td>
<td>take into account</td>
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<tr>
<td>get into</td>
<td>in time</td>
<td>as a matter of fact</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>come up with</td>
<td>with/in regard to</td>
<td>take up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in other words</td>
<td>call (up) on</td>
<td>first and foremost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>find out</td>
<td>show up</td>
<td>up front</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>first of all</td>
<td>used to (+ verb)</td>
<td>run into</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in order to/that</td>
<td>be open to (ideas)</td>
<td>in public</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>take (the) place (of)</td>
<td>take on</td>
<td>on time</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in a/some way</td>
<td>fill in</td>
<td>set out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>as/so far as</td>
<td>rule out</td>
<td>do one’s best</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>figure out</td>
<td>in advance</td>
<td>break down</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>be (have something) in place</td>
<td>get rid of</td>
<td>come on</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>go ahead</td>
<td>put forward</td>
<td>wind up</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>put on</td>
<td>get out of</td>
<td>as for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in a/any sense of/that</td>
<td>in favor of</td>
<td>stick (be stuck) with</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>have (something/nothing) to do</td>
<td>as if</td>
<td>buy into</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>point out</td>
<td>be used to (+ noun phrase/ gerund/present participle)</td>
<td>turn around</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>work out</td>
<td>play/have a role/part in</td>
<td>better off</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>keep/have something in mind</td>
<td>take out</td>
<td>get away with</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>as to (wh- clause/noun phrase)</td>
<td>in light of</td>
<td>hold someone accountable</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>so far</td>
<td>take steps</td>
<td>account for</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>to the/some extent</td>
<td>be up to somebody/something</td>
<td>throw out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>look forward to</td>
<td>take advantage of</td>
<td>in the/a fashion (that)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>follow up on</td>
<td>take care of</td>
<td>keep up with/doing</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>in general</td>
<td>get through</td>
<td>more or less</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>make sense</td>
<td>down the road</td>
<td>live with (meaning to accept)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>bring up</td>
<td>carry out</td>
<td>get around</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>set up</td>
<td>go for</td>
<td>pass out</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>on behalf of</td>
<td>in the (or somebody’s) interest (of)</td>
<td>run out of</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>put together</td>
<td>leave out</td>
<td>after all</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>as soon as</td>
<td>make up</td>
<td>make it</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>on the other hand</td>
<td>as of</td>
<td>a fair game</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>by the way</td>
<td></td>
<td>sign off</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

THE MOST FREQUENTLY USED SPOKEN AMERICAN ENGLISH IDIOMS 695
go after
run through (go over)
in the wake of
break up
right away
all of a sudden
come/go into effect
in the long/short run/term
hand out
by and large
have/get a clue
keep on track
in turn
take over
ballpark (e.g., figure)
the ball is in your court
hold on
in good faith
after the fact
to somebody's best knowledge
on and off
stick to
bring about
in essence
for somebody's/the sake of
at stake
the big picture
by virtue of
so to speak
in keeping with
live up to
draw the line
to the contrary
in line with
off the top of my head
follow through
up to date
hold up (meaning to delay)
to date
come across
by hand
hold up (to a test)
in common
in somebody's/the way of
so on and so forth
come about (happen)
shed/cast light on
in somebody's/the eyes of
get/have a handle on
something
turn in
under way
in the fore of
put something to rest
in due course
bring forward
er on the side of
fall short
turn on
go wrong
have somebody/something on
one's mind
in detail
pay off
fall apart
go for it
up in the air
in the event of/that
get something across
take part in
by no means
hang out (with)
in the wrong
level playing field
keep an eye on
on the whole
take effect
bring out
chances are
crack down
come to mind
in private
call something into question
to somebody's credit
on the verge of
all out
turn up
by far
get to the point
on the horizon
quid pro quo
screw up
come off
come by (meaning to visit)
cut down
make good on something
throw away
above all
in control
at somebody's/the expense of
make up for
in the pipeline
in practice
as usual
be in for (meaning to experience)
be over one's head
get/have hands on
cope with
make up one's mind
the other way around
in order (meaning in sequence)
push the envelope
once and for all
a rule of thumb
for the time being
(can't) get over something
at large
drop off
look up something (in)
gerund/ grab hold of
at issue
all over again
in place of/in somebody's place
have a say/voice in
be/put on hold
leave somebody/something alone
do away with
give rise to
in no way
from scratch
take somebody/something for
granted
in the works
in (good/bad) shape
come across as (meaning to
appear as)
bits and pieces
for good
for real
for that matter
at somebody's disposal
hang in there
give somebody a break
right off the bat
put up with
take issue with
beg the question
break off
come across as (meaning to
appear as)
give away
hold on to
out of control
shut up
make fun of
make/hit headlines
take its toll