Academic Career Workshop

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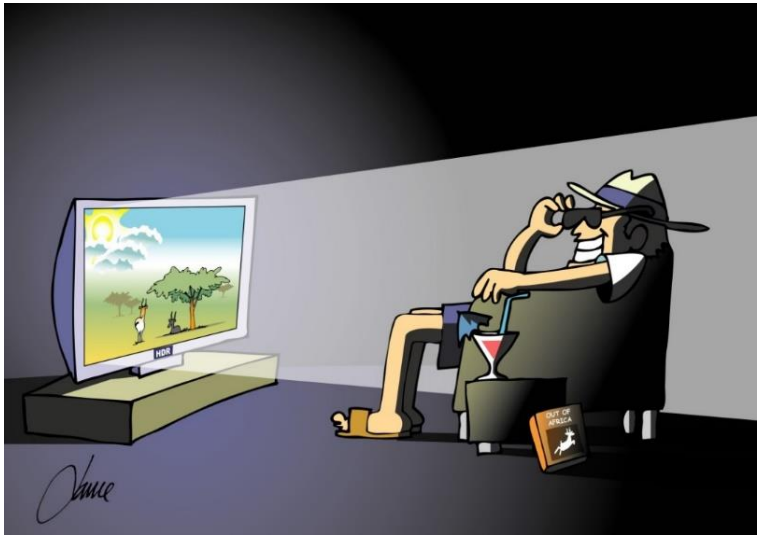


Positions

University of Warwick	WMG Director of Research Degrees	2019-
University of Warwick	Reader	2019-
University of Warwick	Associate Professor	2012-2018
goHDR	Technical Director	2009-2015
University of Warwick	Assistant Professor	2007-2012
University of Bristol	Research Associate	2006-2007
University of Bristol	PhD	2003-2006
University of Malta	Assistant Lecturer	1999-2003

Positions

- Visualisation Group
  - Research
- Director of Research Degrees
  - Administration

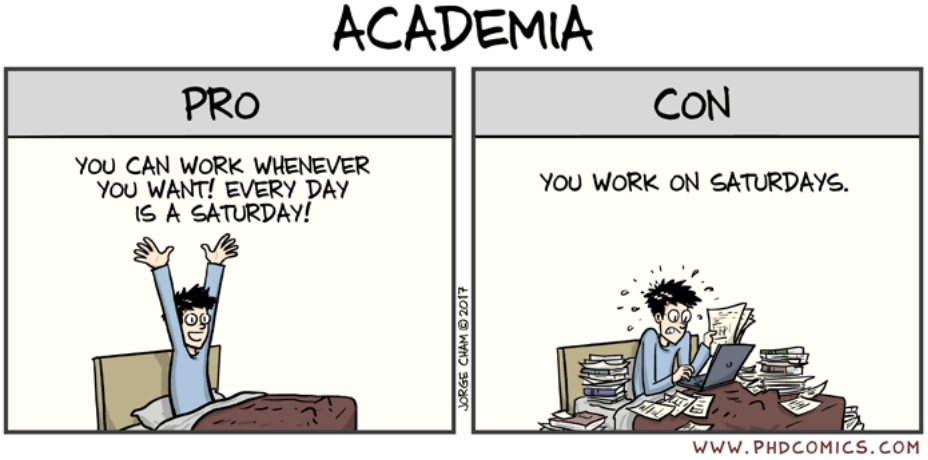
Academic Careers

- Times have changed significantly

- Former PhD students
  - Half in academia
  - Half in industry
    - Accenture, Apple, Boeing, Bosch, The Foundry, JLR, Rockstar North, Shell, Sony, SMEs

What do academics do?

- Research
- Teaching
- Admin



http://phdcomics.com/comics.php?f=1924

Research

- Publications
- Teams
- Areas
- Funding

http://phdcomics.com/comics.php?f=1759

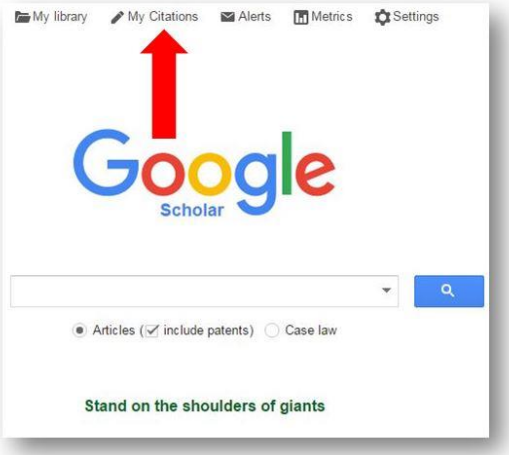
Research – Publish or Perish(?)

- Publications
  - Journals
  - Conferences
    - Posters, Papers, Short talks
    - Peer Reviewed
  - Books
  - Chapters
  - Patents
  - Guest editorials
  - Conference Proceedings (as editor)
  - Standards

https://undsci.berkeley.edu/article/0_0_0/howscienceworks_15

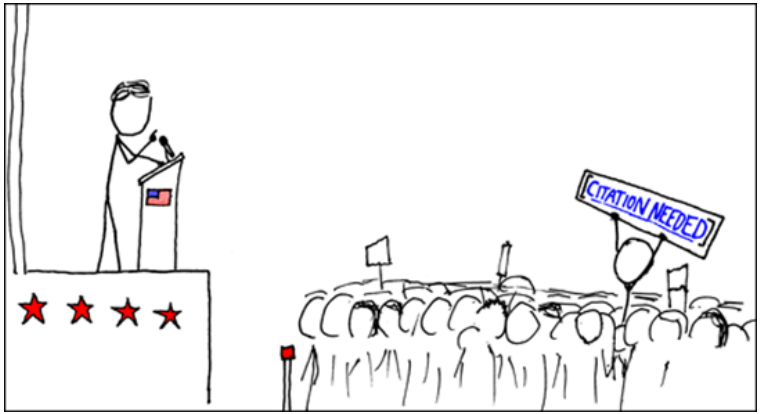
Research – Publications

- Citations
  - Count; h-index; i10 index
- REFable publications
- Authorship
  - First, second, last



Citations – hints

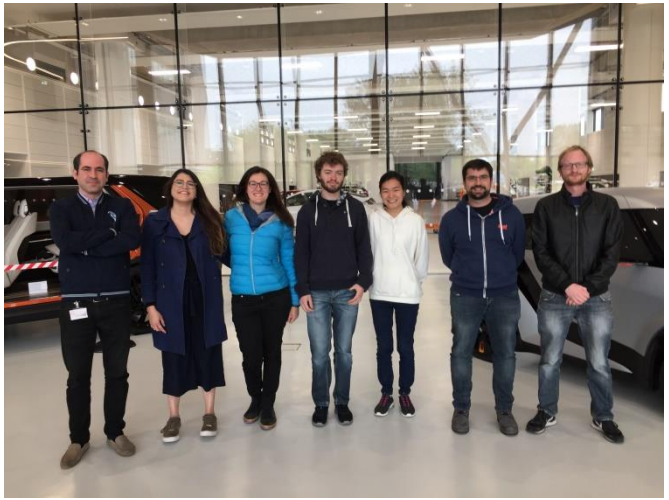
- Have good work
  - Original
  - Impactful
- Link journals to conferences
- Source of aggregate knowledge
  - Literature review
  - Books
- Make papers available
- Provide further incentives – make it easy
  - Make data available
  - Make source code available



https://xkcd.com/285/

Research Team

- Initially be part of a top team
- Eventually build your own



Research - Funding

- Funding, funding, funding
  - Familiarise yourself with funding landscape
  - Small and big pots
  - Fellowships

Research Recommendation

- Two areas
  - Impactful
    - Low hanging fruit
  - Specific
    - True Calling
    - You would do it anyway
    - Might not currently be impactful
- Keep Learning
  - Explore new ideas

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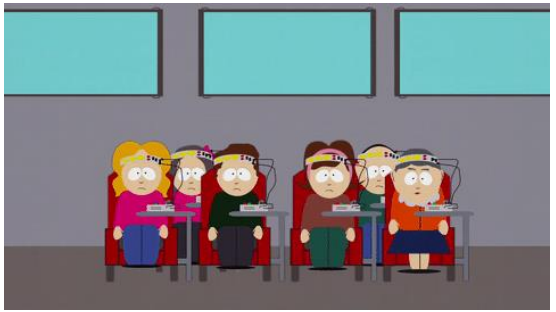


Collaborate

- PhD students/Research Assistants
  - Local, global
- Academics
- Industry
- Government

Teaching

- Build experience
  - Take on any teaching time permits
- What novelty can you bring?
- Teach modules/courses
  - You would have liked to know
  - Only you can teach

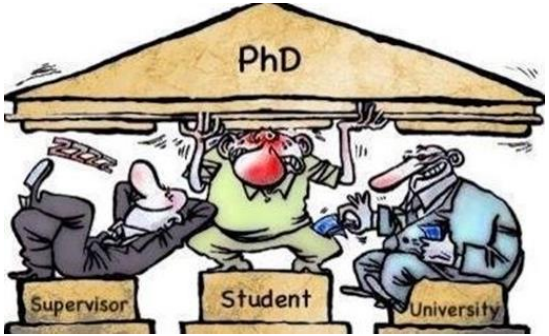
Supervision

- Experience is key
  - BSc/BA, MSc/MA, PhD/EngD

- Supervise close to your topic at first
  - With time you can expand
  - Projects are relatively similar across fields

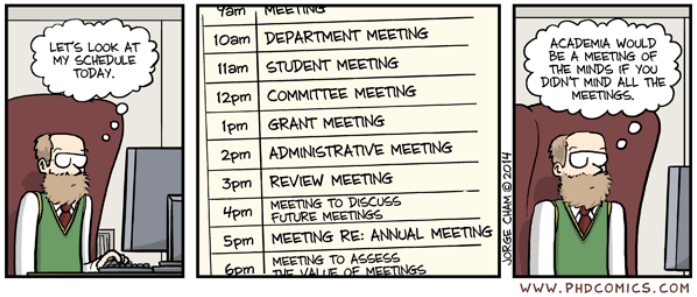
PhD Student Supervision

- Is very rewarding
- Creating the next generation
- Vital for taking ideas forward
  - As management increases



Administration

- Experience
  - Talks
  - Meetings
  - Committees
- Global
  - Volunteer
  - Conference orginisation etc.
- Build up towards something you like



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Other

- Spin outs
- Knowledge transfer
- Outreach
- Standards bodies
- Involved with international organisations

Academic Careers

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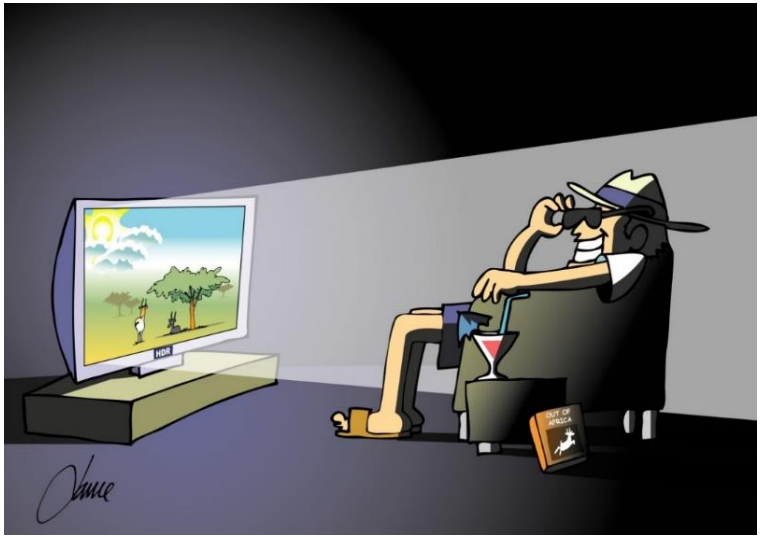
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