UDLS: March 6\textsuperscript{th}, 2008
Finding a Supervisor

Also other topics like plagiarism... as time permits

David Meger
The Supervisor Hunt

The DO's AND DON'Ts of SCHMOOZING WITH YOUR PROFESSOR

**Do** be cheerful in approaching your professor, but not TOO cheerful.
- hello!
- you are clearly too happy, that will have to change.
- ...and then it turned out to be negative!

**Do Not** bring up topics they are unfamiliar with:
- Popular Culture
- Popular anything
- Your research
- wow, that’s really fascinating about your collection of antique portuguese end tables, tell me more.

**Do** steer the conversation toward topics you are BOTH interested in:
- Your professor’s daily commute
- Your professor’s kids
- Your professor’s obscure hobbies
- hey, is that guacamole?

**Do Not** expect much.
Grad-life by Marg:

- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=whBrTOzj0Kw
- http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IsLPqdFNxm4&feature=related
Roundtable Discussion (part 1)

• Advice from the veterans
  – “I had trouble finding a supervisor, but succeeded by...”
  – “I had no trouble, my secret was...”
  – Things to find out before approaching a potential supervisor (their favorite type of doughnut?)
  – A heart-warming tale of a boy and his dog on an epic journey to the inside of Imager
What you’re getting yourself into:

To: Group list
From now on, I expect everyone in my group to work nights and weekends.
-Prof. Smith

send.

I mean, *in addition* to days and weekdays.

GROAN...

...AND, I EXPECT A FULL REPORT BY TOMORROW.

TOMORROW IS SATURDAY?

Uh...

ARE YOU ASKING ME OR TELLING ME?
NEITHER MAKES ME VERY HAPPY.

just checking?
Supervisor Classification

- Professor NeverThere
- Dr SlaveLabourNoResearch
- Dr NoNewIdeasSince1995
- Professor ChangesDirection
- Dr LoneWorker
- Dr OverbearingInterferer
- Dr TesttilyouBreak
- Prof PerfectSupervisor (Uli)
- Dr NeverSatisfied
- Dr HappytobeMediocre
- Prof Differentplanet
Roundtable Discussion (part 2)

- Questions from 1st year grads:
  - “I’m interested in topic x, who should I talk to?”
  - “X said no because... how can I change their mind?”
  - What about funding?
  - Thesis vs project advice
  - Inside info on profs?
  - Pitted against each other, tournament-style one-on-one combat, no-holds-barred, which supervisor in the department comes out on top (the clear favorite is Wolfgang... prove me wrong)
Useful Resources

• UBC: http://www.grad.ubc.ca/supervisor/
• CS: http://www.grad.ubc.ca/policy/index.asp?menu=008,002,000,000
Other Discussion Material Courtesy of Pat and Emti

• On plagiarism
  – http://www.cs.ubc.ca/about/policies/collaboration.shtml
  – http://www.grad.ubc.ca/students/ipguide/index.asp?menu=004,000,000,000

• On harassment
  – http://www.cs.ubc.ca/about/policies/