

BUILDING AND SUPPORTING A RESEARCH PROGRAM

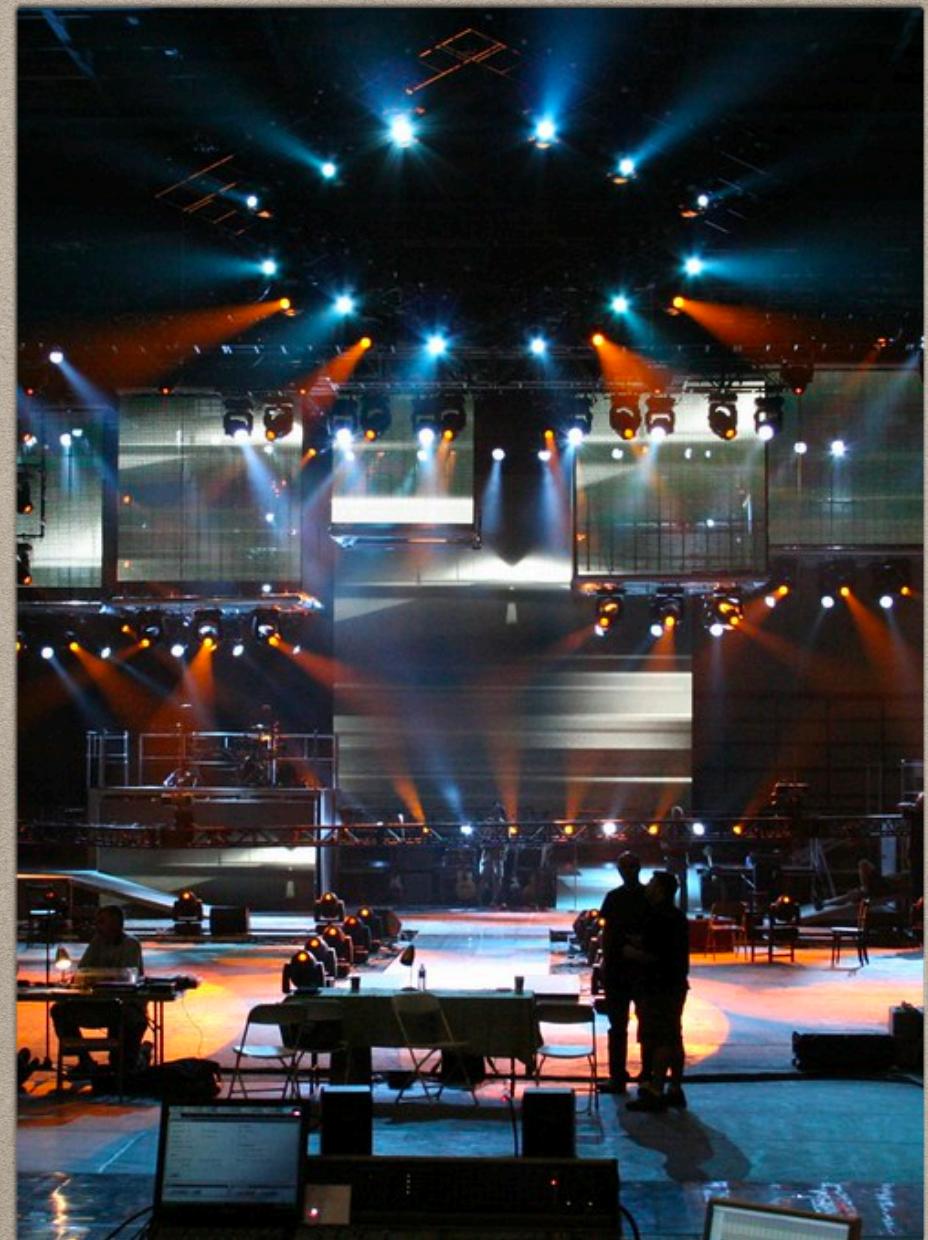
ICSE 2019 NEW FACULTY SYMPOSIUM

GAIL MURPHY, UBC



SETTING THE STAGE

"IT DEPENDS"
I'M AN IMPOSTER
MAKE IT YOURS



MAIN POINTS

- Passion vs. Career
- Working styles
- Components
- Finding resources

PASSION VS. CAREER

- Passion
 - What do you most want to change in the world of software engineering?
- Career
 - How do you ensure that you are around to pursue your passion?



Passion

Strategic decisions

Break down long-term goals into shorter-term projects

About your vision about what you want to see change

Career

Tactical (and strategic) decisions

What do you need to get done to make the next career milestone (e.g., tenure)

Shorter-term pay-offs (e.g., might have two+ project tracks)

Unsolicited Advice

Check-in once or twice a year on your balance of passion vs. career

WORKING STYLES

- Solo projects
- Projects with your students
- Projects with colleagues in your department (in same or different area)
- Projects with colleagues in other University
- Projects with colleague in industry



WORKING STYLES...

Risk

Funding

Satisfaction

Skills

Work-life
Balance

Requirements of
institution

Capacity

Unsolicited Advice

What is important to you? Start with lower-risk approaches, lots of time to experiment later in career with higher-risk (for you)

COMPONENTS

- Publishing
- Talks/Visits
- Conference/workshop organization
- Reviewing
- Student/post-doc training



COMPONENTS...

- Publishing
 - Always important
 - What is important: to you? To your institution? To your funding agencies?
- Talks/Visits
 - Interacts with working style
 - Typically quality over quantity
- Conference/workshop organization
 - Choose a small number of communities in which to be well-known
- Reviewing
 - Doing a good job matters
- Student/post-doc training
 - Ramp it in

Unsolicited Advice

Use mentors in your own department

FINDING RESOURCES

- Identify services your department, faculty or institution provides
 - Grant writing support?
 - Mentorship?
 - Seed funding?
- Find a set of mentors
 - Within your institution, outside your institution



Unsolicited Advice

Do NOT be afraid to ask for help

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More unsolicited advice...

Find time each year to self-reflect about your research program versus projects

Where might you experiment with new approaches?

Take it one step at a time

Do it the way you want to do it but be realistic about being around for the long haul

And never be afraid to ask for help

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