

File 20110714.1130: Notes from PMA meeting with Kevin Miller: we went over my interim PMA and Kevin asked when I would be coming back full time. I said 13th January, if all goes as planned. At the next defence, my committee could possibly add another year, but I hope they don't, because I can't afford it. I will run out of money. I mentioned funding and we talked about tuition assistance; I saw in Wednesday's LM weekly news an update of the policy & procedures for it, and I looked at, it, but did not see anything relevant to my situation. Kevin mentioned two names of executives I should start helping: Brian Magazu and Lyle Wilson. Brian Magazu especially is a VP or a director of security engineering with a high level of visibility, and if I could help him out on some projects after the first of the year, he might give a good endorsement later on for LM Fellow status. I pleaded to stay below the radar of those two gentlemen and not to be assigned any more tasks by them until after I finish my dissertation. There will be one more defence after that in Oxford. Six months is all I have left. After that I will come back to work full time.

We talked about my analysis that the distribution of experience in the department is highly skewed toward long-tenure experts. Kevin agreed that this department has small turnover, and validated my assessment of the age/experience distribution. We talked about the lack of depth in systems engineering if Larry were to leave. Kevin mentioned that Eric Chiu does a lot of that for him when Larry isn't around. Kevin himself would prefer to stick to security engineering, hardware engineering and system administration. He doesn't want to do the systems engineering stuff. I suggested that I might. I have been getting a lot of systems engineering perspective from my school research. I put that bug in Kevin's ear. Larry Brown is 'one bad day away from retiring'. Kevin expressed dismay that Ernie had volunteered Eric Baker for the ELDP programme; that was dumb; after spending a lot of money moving Eric to San Diego, now they are going to lose him.

References