

File 20111215.1119: Detailed schedule and plan for finishing my dissertation, for Ian Pugh:

Further to what I wrote on the GSO.15 form—and I talked to one of my supervisors about it this morning—here is a detailed schedule for finishing:

Immediately from 2nd January, I will have no more responsibilities at Lockheed Martin. Of seven chapters (plus appendices) in the Table of Contents, my first task towards finishing, under way now, is to code the Case Study 1 (CS-1) observations into the ATLAS.ti software. Size of task: 1195 events, 163 meetings, involving 48 individuals. I estimate completion of this task and the writing and approval of Chapter 3 by 15th February. The second largest task is the coding of CS-2 and writing of Chapter 4; this is expected to go more quickly and it is a smaller data set, so I plan to finish Chapter 4 by 10th March. CS-3 will commence 11th March and finish 30th March with a completed Chapter 5 by 1st April. I have these dates on my wall calendar.

Chapter 6, describing a solution to the problem based on SCAP, will be completed before the beginning of week 1 of Trinity term, 22nd April. Chapters 1 and 2 are already written.

Footnote: the GSO.15 form instructions do stress that only one term of extension should be applied for at a time, and I am following that recommendation. It is highly probable, however, that my supervisors will request one more term of extension after Hilary so I can write the Conclusions chapter and assemble the appendices for submission and examination in Trinity term. You should therefore expect to receive one more request for extension. After that, I will be done.

Schedule:

- 15 Dec–15 Feb: coding of first case study in ATLAS.ti; write Chapter 3.
- 16 Feb–10 Mar: coding of second case study; write Chapter 4.
- 11 Mar–1st Apr: coding of third case study, analysis of all three case studies; write Chapter 5.
- 2nd–22nd Apr: Chapter 6: A Solution to the Accreditation Problem Using SCAP.
- 23rd Apr–6th Jun: Chapter 7 and appendices; submission of thesis to the examiners.

I emailed Mr Pugh and Mrs Roberts about it; everyone will leave the college 22nd December and be away on holiday until 3rd January, so we have a week to get the Senior Tutor to approve the request for extension of time.

References