Networking
Building Your Research Village

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Principal Researcher, Microsoft
What’s next?

- A bit about me
- Advice, antidotes, Q&A (20 minutes)
- Speed networking (7min x 3)
- Homework & resources
Kathryn McKinley
Principal Researcher, Microsoft

Make systems better
faster, reliable, secure, energy efficient

Programming Language Implementation
DaCapo Benchmarks
Cross system boundaries
Software for Heterogeneous Hardware

Professor, UT Austin
ACM Fellow, IEEE Fellow
17 PhD students
Testified to Congress
Science is a human process

You are part of a research community

Networking is …

Building and sustaining professional relationships in your community

Your career will span decades or more!
Networking is *not* ...

Using people or a substitute for quality research
The Good and the Ugly

Susan Eggers
- Me: talk at UW
- Susan: Interview at UW (no offer!)
- Susan: ASPLOS PC member
- Me: proposal advice
- Me: ASPLOS Program Chair
- Me (UMass): tenure letter
- Susan: talk advice

Random people
- Me, rejection
- Lesson: start with a complement & question/topic
But I am horrible at small talk!

You have CS in common
Networking is not genetic
It is a research skill

Practice

Meet people    Learn    Go places
Volunteer!
Networking ...

- Makes you known
- Makes your work known
- Source of new research ideas & different slants on old ideas
- Feedback on your research
- New collaborations
- Letters for tenure, awards, etc.
- Professional opportunities
It takes a village ...

And you get to create your own.
Creating your own village

All villages need elders

All villages need regular Joes

All villages need diversity
  Learn different strokes from different folks

All villages need uniformity
  Similar folks have similar issues

John S. Davis, IBM, 2003
Networking up & down

- Go to talks, go to conferences, …
- Introduce yourself to
  - Established Researchers
  - Researchers in all areas!
  - Researchers junior to you
  - Peers!
Networking across & down

Chuck Koebel
- Post doc at Rice
- NSF program manager

Doug Burger
- Interviewed @UMass
- Hired me @UT
- Hired me @ Microsoft
Conference networking

Prepare a research talk (write it down, practice)

✓ “Elevator talk” (1 & 3 minute versions)
  - Why is it an interesting problem?
  - Why is it important?
  - Why is your solution unique?

✓ Prepare
  - Who will be there? Who do you want to meet?
  - What do you want to ask them? Read their papers.
  - **Take notes!** Who you met, plan next steps
At the Conference

✓ Use your EQ
✓ You all have CS in common
✓ Reconnect
✓ Don’t only hang around with your friends
✓ Don’t interrupt private conversations
✓ Don’t be overly negative/critical
✓ Don’t hang on to a conversation too long
✓ One conversation is not enough
✓ Find people you connect with
After the conference

✓ Follow up!
  - Read their work! Send comments
  - Send pointers to your related papers
  - Share software and workloads
  - Do joint work together
  - Invite them to give a talk
  - Ask to give a talk there (* as appropriate)
Informal networking

✓ Serendipity happens: Talk to people you meet by chance. Talk to people you like.
✓ Convey excitement about your research and theirs.
✓ Talk to people about their lives as well as their work.
✓ Ask questions & listen! Remember…
Questions?
Speed Dating Musical Chairs

- What you need
  - pad of paper, pen, your brain & a SMILE!

- Even rows, sit tight

- Odd rows, turn your chair around.

- If you are facing someone whom you know, swap with a neighbor
7 Minute Speed Dating

- 1 minute Quick Intros
  - Shake hands (cultural caveat), eye contact, & smile
  - “My name is Kathryn...Happy to meet you, Jane”
  - Write down the name

Listener: Ask a question

Respondent: Answer the question!
  - Listener listens *actively*, eye contact, notes are OK
  - Listener *mirrors* what she has heard & responds directly, relating to the answer

Swap Roles. Lather, Rinse, Repeat!
What to talk about?

- Where are you from?
- Where are you in graduate school? undergraduate studies?
- Why are you studying CS?
- What is your research area? What attracts you to this subject area?
- What research problem(s) are you working on right now?
- Do you enjoy working alone, with a partner, small or big group?
- What is your greatest (professional or personal) challenge right now?
- What is your biggest concern about faculty life?
- What kind of career path do you want to pursue?
- What do you hope to get out of this workshop?
- What do you enjoy doing when you’re not doing CS? What are you passionate about?
Activities & Resources

Arrange networking events at your home institution!
Homework

- Practice this week with your peers & beyond
- Meet at least 10 people in your institution this month
- Introduce yourself with handshake (caveat), smile, and your name
- Write down their names
- Network Forward – network your network
- Follow-up with email, Linked-In, or Facebook

**Network Forward** Make connections “You should meet Hermione Granger from Hogwarts...”
Resources

- www.cra-w.org
- CRA-W Career Mentoring Workshops, Workshop reports and transcripts,
- From a summer internship to a permanent position by Keith Farkus, DEC WRL
- Finding real world problems by Dirk Grunwald, U Colorado
- Networking for your students by Ken Kennedy, Rice
- Go outside your department by Jan Cuny, U Oregon
- Developing business contacts by Maria Klawe, UBC
- Networking at NSF by Caroline Wardle, NSF
- Populating a start-up by Dave Ditzel, Transmeta
- The ONR program director by Susan Eggers, UW
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