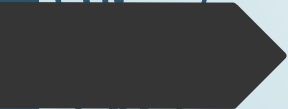




Dr. Bushra Anjum

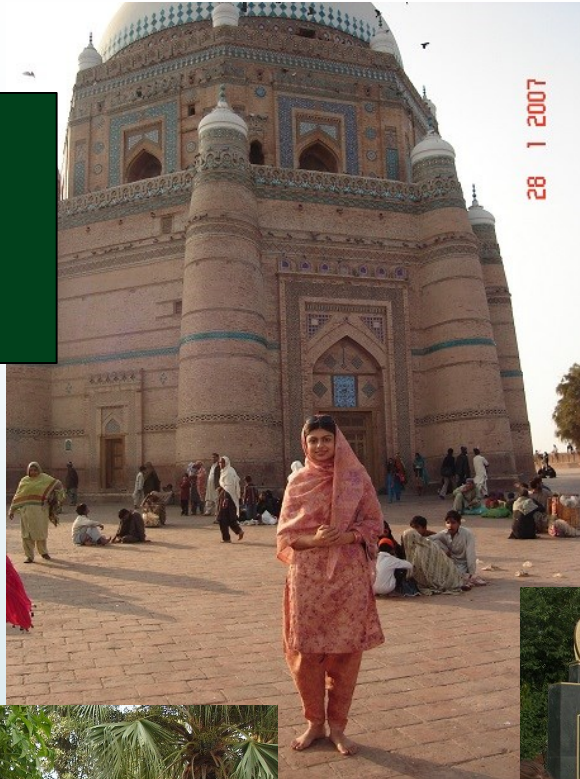
“ MS or PhD
WHICH SHOULD
YOU CHOOSE? ”



Amazon Prime
San Luis Obispo



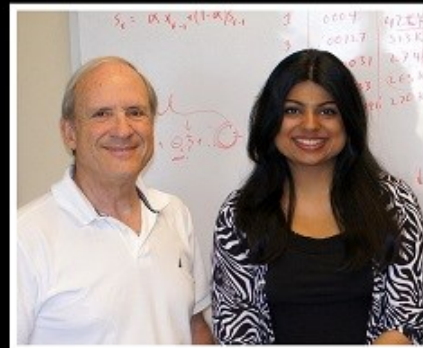
2



3







Congratulations Bushra Anjum

for the successful defense of your
Ph.D. dissertation entitled

*"Bandwidth Allocation Under End-
to-End Percentile Delay Bounds"*

on April 16, 2012.

Advisor: Dr. Harry Perros

Computer Science
NC STATE UNIVERSITY











10



I am glad I got a
PHD,
I would do it again!

The Algorithm (CS)

```
if (I.LoveLoveLoveProgramming)
    PersueMasters(); //industry, entrepreneurship
elseif (I.LikeProgramming AND I.WantMoneyBefore30) {
    if (RAND(0, 1.0) < 0.6)
        FinishBachelors();
    else
        PursueMasters();
}

elseif (I.LikeProgramming AND I.BelieveTheTruthIsOutThere)
    PursuePhD(); /*research, tenure track, teaching,
industry, labs, entrepreneurship*/
elseif (I.DontLikeProgramming){
    FinishBachelors();
    BecomeASurfer();
}
```

MS OR PHD: WHICH SHOULD YOU CHOOSE?

TAMMARA COMBS, PHD



@TAMMARACOMBS



@BIZNISSMOM



ENTREPRENEUR

- Brand Management
- Marketing Technology
- Product Development
- Corporate Strategy
- Celebrity Seeding
- Real Estate Investing



PATH TO PHD

- Bachelor of Science in
Computer Science &
Mathematics '97
- Master's of Science in
Computer Science: Human
Computer Interaction '99
- Doctor of Philosophy in
Information Science '08
 - Dissertation Title: "Understanding
Community: The Implications of
Information Flow and Social Interactions in
Online Discussion Groups"



SENIOR ENGINEER

Outlook v.1

Expedia v.1

IdeAgency

CORPORATE VICE PRESIDENT

Lowes.com replatform & redesign

MyLowes



How do the experiences compare?

Master's Degree	Ph.D. Degree
Coursework + Project or Thesis Program may consist entirely of coursework.	Coursework + Research + Dissertation Emphasis on developing research skills
Many different types of programs Some emphasize breadth Some have special focus Some combine both	Develop general knowledge through coursework and/or exams Specialized knowledge through area exams or projects Majority of time spent becoming expert in a particular research area
1-2 years if full-time Can be done part-time	3-7 years (most often 4-6) Programs typically expect a full-time commitment

LIFESTYLE CONSIDERATIONS

- Married or Single?
- Children?
- Work while in school?
- Support system?
- Why are you pursuing your advanced degree?



LESSONS LEARNED

- Relationships are super valuable
- Support system has to align with goals
- Helped entrepreneurial endeavors (grit & fortitude)
- Credibility with those in industry & academia
- Great conversation starter
- Working FT during PhD is hard!
- Having babies during PhD is harder!!

1 decade of earning advanced degrees multiplied my options!

