

“To Everything There is a Season” Personal Reflections on System Dynamics and the Calling of ‘University Professor’

Practical tips for Negotiating the “Rites of Passage” from
BA Recipient to , ‘Dr.’ to ‘Professor’ (with Tenure)

John Richardson
Adjunct Professor, Residential College 4
National University of Singapore
Ph.D. Colloquium, System Dynamics Society
July 17, 2017

Many, many thanks to,

Erika Palmer
Benedicte Wilson
Natalia. Ciobanu

And introducing my *Residential College Four*
colleagues from Singapore

Dr. Jenson GOH. Director of Studies
Ms. Elizabeth ONG
Dr. WANG Wei Yang
Dr. BELLAM, Sreenivasulu

Culminating Your Journey

**Honoring Our Colleagues
Professors**

**Erica Palmer, Benedicte Wilson
and Natalia Ciobanu**

**On the Occasion of their Elevation to the
Rank of**

University Professor, Emerita

**In Recognition of Their Distinguished
Career**

Of Service to Others

The Journey: Doctoral Student to Professor Emeritus

- **The Ph.D. Rite of Passage (focus of this talk)**
 - Preparation
 - Completing Course requirements and examinations
 - Completing the dissertation and getting it published
- **Post Doctoral Fellowship** and publications
- **Your first job** ; create knowledge and make it accessible; publish books and articles, begin building affiliations outside the university
- **Promotion and tenure**
- Settle on the position you will hold to be promoted to Full Professor; publish books and articles, build affiliations outside the university accept directorships, board memberships, consultancies and other affiliations
- **Promotion to Full Professor with tenure** ; accept additional administrative responsibilities within your university; publish books and articles, continue directorships, affiliations, consultancies etc. Become proficient in balancing "internal" and "external" obligations".
- **Decide how you want to balance teaching, research and service** . (within and outside of the university). **Strive for a balance that suits your temperament and values**. Give back in thanks for what you have received.
- **Retirement**. Assuming good health, pursue other options.

Choose Some Role Models to Serve as Your Guides

Most may be at this conference and you can seek them out.

- **Jay Wright Forrester Award Winners**

- J. Bradley Morrison
- Mark Paich
- Tom Fiddaman
- Kim Warren
- Nelson Repenning
- John Sterman
- Andrew Ford

- George Richardson
- John Morecorft
- David Anderson
- Khalid Saeed
- David Lane

- **Other**

- Diana Fisher
- Donella Meadows
- Dennis Meadows

The First Step: Taking Time (3-5 years) to Prepare for Doctoral Study Prior to Applying for Enrollment – Why this makes sense.

- Becoming more mature.
- Taking stock of yourself and your goals
- Gaining management skills and experience
- Strengthening your proficiency in System Dynamics
- Surveying institutions and programs for pursuing your Ph.D. degree
- Researching and connecting with possible candidates to be your dissertation supervisor
- Possibly earning an MA, MS, or MBA degrees.

Which University and Program Should I Choose?

- College of Business, Department of Management
- Management and Organization
- School of Engineering
- Sloan School of Management (MA&PhD)
- Department of Civil Engineering
- Department of Agriculture, Agribusiness and Environmental Science
- School of Business
- Information School
- Industrial and Systems Engineering
- School of Social Work

Choosing An Advisor: Your Most Important Decision

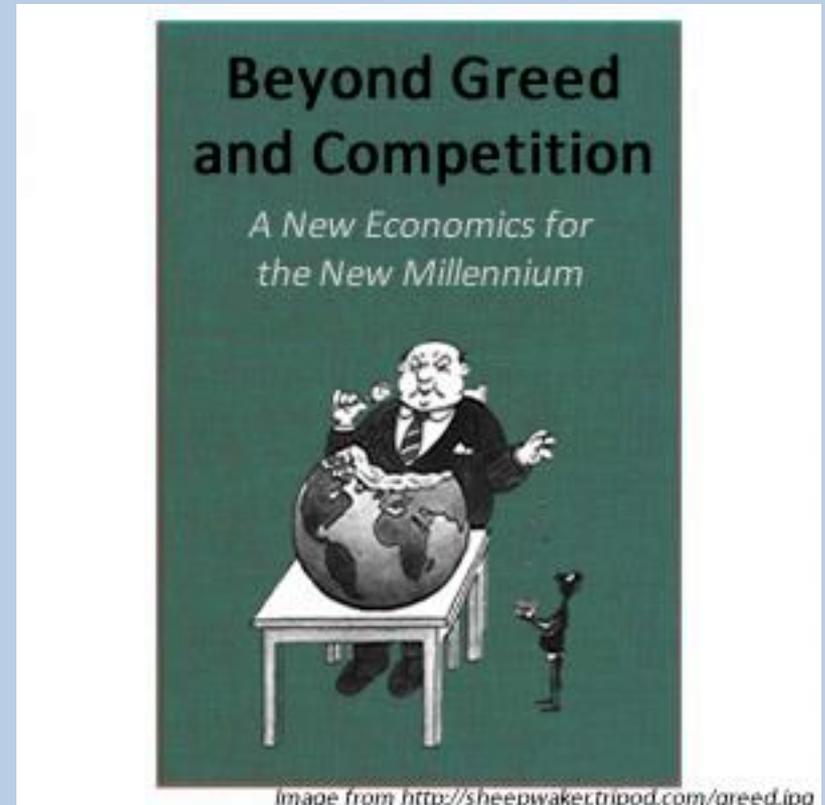
- A respected full professor, with clout in his or her department; widely published, widely respected and well resourced.
- Needs assistance from someone like you for a funded project
- The project includes a differentiated element that can be suitable for a dissertation
- If the dissertation requirement is “a book-length manuscript” he or she has written at least two books and published them with respectable presses.
- If the requirement differs, he or she is prolific and respected in whatever the requirement is.
- He or she likes you, respects you, supports you in tough times and is someone with whom you communicate.

Completing the Doctoral Study Rite of Passage and Winning Admission to the Academic Tribe

- Choosing your dissertation topic
- Choosing and completing the required coursework in your field.
- Successfully passing comprehensive examinations in your major and related fields
- Successfully passing the “oral defense” of the dissertation. Being welcomed as a Junior member of the tribe.
- Soon after, you will be able to precede your name with the title “Dr.” for as long as you live.

Choosing “The Path Less Traveled by” Post Doctoral Fellowship

“This book builds on the late professor Jay Forrester’s pioneering *National Economic Model* and complementary follow up work by Professor Khalid Saeed. Using both *System Dynamics modeling* and *mathematical automata theory* it explores the resilience *China’s regional economic subsystems* for coping with the overshoot and collapse scenarios described in *Limits to Growth the 30 Year Update*.



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