

THE EVOLUTION OF INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM

I'M GOING TO RESEARCH WHATEVER I WANT!

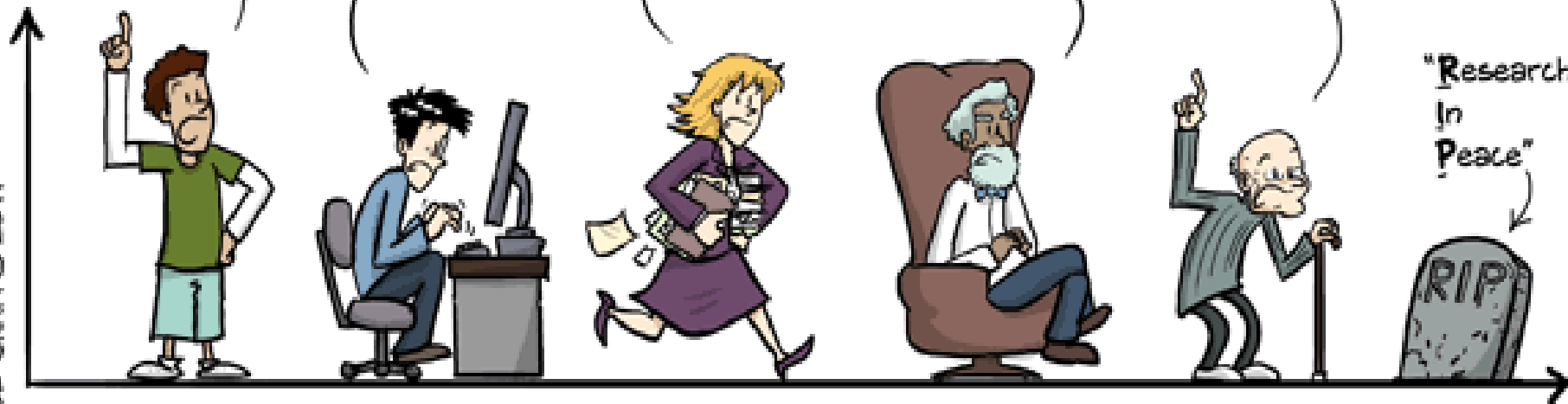
I'M GOING TO RESEARCH WHATEVER MY PROFESSOR WANTS!

I'M GOING TO RESEARCH WHATEVER MY TENURE COMMITTEE WANTS!

I'M GOING TO RESEARCH WHATEVER MY GRANT COMMITTEE WANTS!

I'M GOING TO RESEARCH WHATEVER I-

"Research In Peace"



BEFORE GRAD SCHOOL

GRAD STUDENT

ASSISTANT PROFESSOR

TENURED PROFESSOR

EMERITUS PROFESSOR

1993-2001..... 2002-2016..... 2016-now



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I can't remember much about my undergraduate years in the UK!



As a student..

- Prof Johann Lutjeharms was my MSc/PhD mentor
- Got me to do the things he didn't want to do! i.e. lecture, attend meetings, go on cruises
- Encouraged me to find funding for conferences and start networking
- He taught me "publish or perish"!
- Under his mentorship I realized the importance of "taking the initiative"
- Full of fatherly advice .. but quite mischievous!



As a lecturer..

- Being similar age I essentially grew up with students..
- It was a time of adventure, pioneering science, hands-on training
- I started to push students to find funding, take initiative, build a network, attend meetings
- We had a lot of fun during this time!





But ...while students stay the
same age.....I get older ☹️





As HoD

- I am not involved in research as much as I would like – BUT perhaps I have a different purpose now!
- Open Door policy
- Listen to each student who all require different needs – finances, problems with the Department, supervisors, study worries
- Offer support to students and take an interest in what students do
- Stay connected!!!
- Make the students feel that they are part of the Department – that their voice is being heard!


What do we want?

Students

- Practical guidance to help get it done
- Need many levels of support – financial, equipment, mentorship
- Help with career by accessing networks
- Inspiration
- Open Door Policy

Supervisors

- To give advice and support whenever needed!
- Stimulation and inspiration
- Satisfaction and enjoyment of solving research puzzles together
- To help advance mutual fields
- Joint publications = own career enhancement
- Mutual respect



So ... what is my take
Home message to
students and
supervisors now?

- Quite simply – it's "SHOW"
- Initiative
- Interest in solving research puzzles together
- Spirit and Engagement
- Sense of wanting to be part of a Department
- Respect for all
- Tenacity – don't give up!
- Positivity - no matter how difficult your studies are – you will always find a way

