

CHASING SQUIRRELS AND HERDING CATS

**Presentation to Doctoral Seminar Fall 2016 OSU
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INTRODUCTIONS

Getting to know you.....

Who you are

Your current occupation

Area of study/concentration

Where you are in your program

Why did you choose Oklahoma State University

CHASING SQUIRRELS

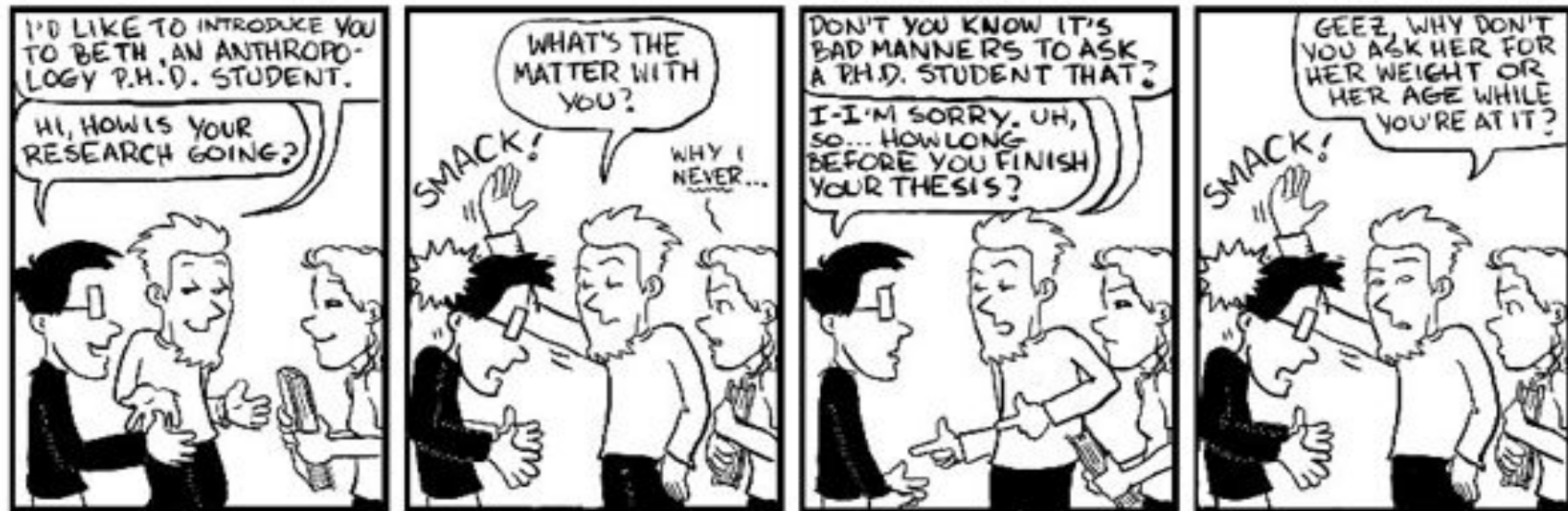


CHASING SQUIRRELS

Chasing squirrels is the number one reason for ABD (all but dissertation) versus Ph.D. or Ed.D.

Chasing squirrels (v. action) is the inability to select a dissertation study, a set of questions, a methodology, and/or an analysis approach, and to continue to be distracted by new studies, sets of questions, methodologies, and analyses approaches once a preliminary decision has been made. (Witte dictionary)

CHASING SQUIRRELS



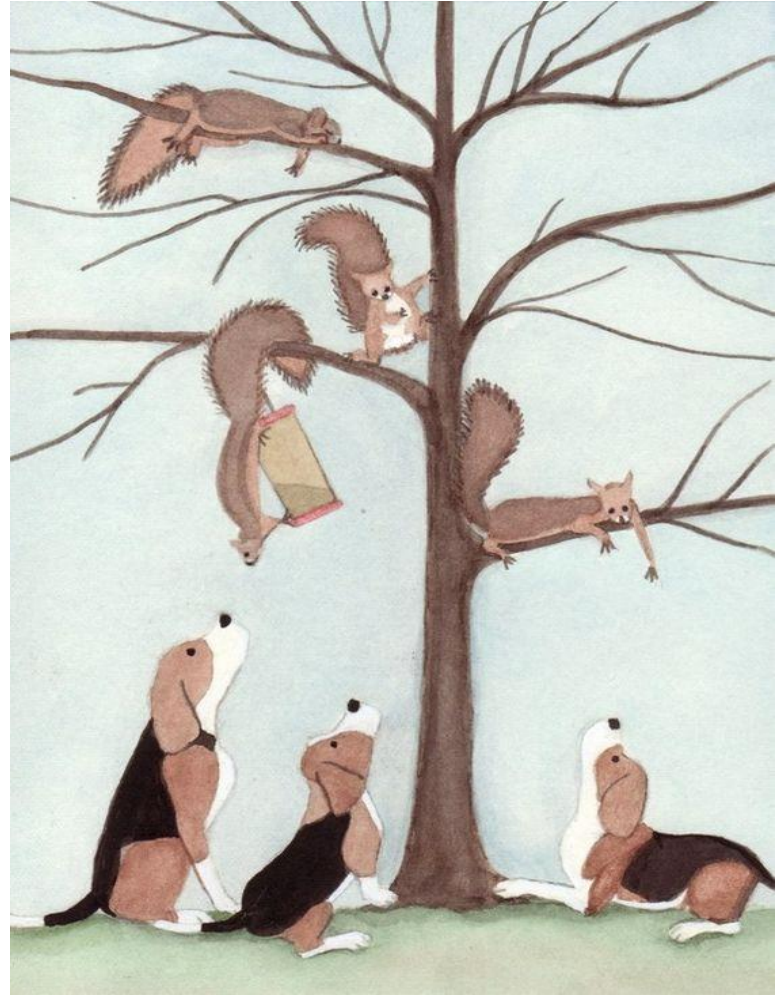
JORGE CHAM ©THE STANFORD DAILY

THANKS TO MIGUEL...

CHASING SQUIRRELS

Squirrel Chasing Vaccine
(a.k.a. finding a
dissertation topic and
staying on it)

1. Teachers, Learners, or
Texts
2. What do you want to know
about Teachers,
Learners, or Texts



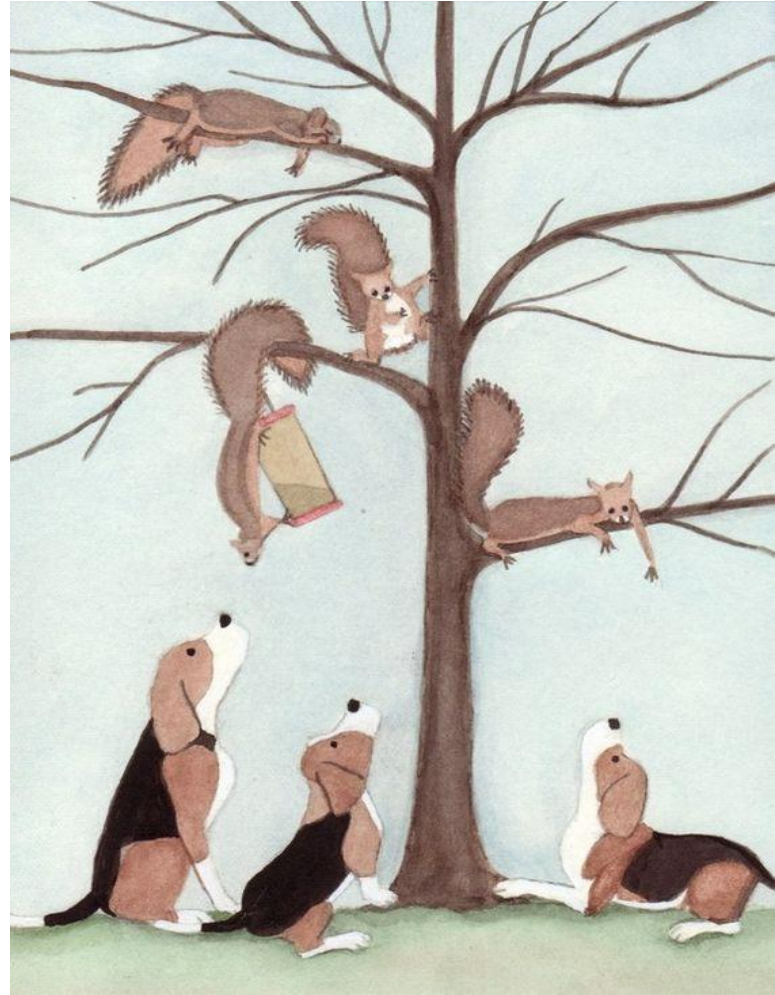
CHASING SQUIRRELS

3. How can you best find out (Methodology)?

4. Who else wanted to know about it and wrote about it?

5. How is your approach different than others?

6. Discuss with your advisor



CHASING SQUIRRELS

7. Put on the BLINDERS

8. Resist the urge. Keep a file of “Next Studies”. Share with someone who has promised to listen and then say “Not now.”

9. The only GOOD dissertation is a finished dissertation

Blinders... because she

Shies

At New Ideas



FLYING MACHINES, horseless carriages — they had their skeptics. Every new idea, every great advance, does. Electrolux is no exception.

We don't mind that. For though Electrolux is four years old, has enjoyed a phenomenal success and is today in hundreds of thousands of homes, it is still the new idea, the big radical improvement in automatic refrigerators.

All we ask is that you go and see Electrolux with your eyes wide open. Judge the facts at first hand.

You will find that Electrolux not only freezes ice cubes quickly and provides perfect constant cold always, but does this without sound, without machinery, and at much less cost than any other refrigerator.

Is it any wonder that Electrolux sales in 1931 were far ahead of 1930?

You certainly owe it to yourself to see this remarkable refrigerator that has so greatly changed the old order of things. It is on display at the showroom of your gas company.

And if you'd like complete information by mail, write to us direct for free literature. Electrolux Refrigerator Sales, Inc., Evansville, Indiana.



The old make changes — a new gas flame takes the place of all moving parts



ELECTROLUX
THE *Gas* REFRIGERATOR

HERDING CATS



HERDING CATS

Herding Cats (v. action) is the opportunity for and completion of all tasks in the teaching, research, and outreach/service categories of faculty work and the accumulation of documentation to prove such work was actually accomplished in order to be successfully promoted and tenured at a college or university (Witte dictionary)

HERDING CATS



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HERDING CATS

1. Ask about promotion and tenure requirements at the time of interview
2. READ the promotion and tenure requirements before accepting a position
3. Ask to see the vita of three recently promoted and tenured professors at the institution



HERDING CATS

4. Be clear about your workload expectations on job acceptance (percentages of time spent on teaching, research, outreach/service)
5. Create a cloud-based digital organizational method for documentation of EVERYTHING
6. Decide on a labeling system and follow through (different folders for peer reviewed/refereed and invited)



HERDING CATS

7. Organize your cats. Document EVERYTHING. Save emails as PDFs. Save digital copies of conference presentations. Save emails from students. Save grant submissions. Save journal submission verifications. Save, save, save, save!



HERDING CATS

8. Keep a publishing pipeline (EXCEL sheet) that shows publications in press (and when), publications under review (and when), publications in draft, and all of those great Squirrels from your dissertation work to do in the future. This will be an excellent reference when writing your yearly report and your mid-tenure and tenure reports



HERDING CATS

9. Don't adopt cats unnecessarily. Learn how to say no, graciously. Always take time to ask your mentors and chair and the invitation is worth your time, P and T-wise. They can also help you with your no.



HERDING CATS

10. Take cat inventory yearly. Use your evaluation and reflections each year wisely. Decide what cats you can keep and which cats you can give up for adoption. What projects need more attention? What projects can be passed on to others?



YOUR SUPPORT SYSTEM



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QUESTIONS?

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