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**European Computer Science Summit 2007 (ECSS 2007) 8-9 October 2007, Berlin**  
**Proposed contribution (short 15 minute talk)**

**The University Computer Science research unit: getting organized inside and outside.**

As Computer Science becomes a mature, recognized science, and its academic demographics are stabilizing, it becomes possible and essential to ensure our full representation in all decision instances around the University and thus gain access to stable and important resources in manpower, infrastructure and equipment. In this talk we will outline and attempt to quantify a simple strategy for gaining more visibility for the CS unit, and similarly analyze some ideas for organizing the unit internally.

Why should we plan to permanently maintain a colleague on the scientific council? How many of us can become University Presidents? How to gain visibility through a 30K€ PC cluster? Why should a 30-person laboratory have a public relations officer? How much is basic research worth in an era of better-funded applied research? Such questions have far reaching consequences for the future of our research. This short talk is intended to share ideas that aim at improving the political and financial status of academic IST research.

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