A Career in the Informatics Community

or

How I stuck around for ~~30~~ 40 years

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CWI, Manager Research & Strategy
UU, Prof. Multimedia Discourse Interaction

1982 BSc(Hons) in Maths & Physics from Glasgow University
1983 Programmer at International Computers Ltd

PERQ workstation, ICL

Office Workstations Ltd., Abbeymount Techbase

1984 Research associate at Edinburgh University, programmer at Expert Software International

1985 Programmer then group leader at Office Workstations Ltd.

1988 Research assistant at Heriot-Watt University

1989 Researcher at Office Workstations Ltd.

1990 Moved to the Netherlands

1992 Researcher at CWI (Centrum voor Wiskunde en Informatica)

1996 Martin born 24th April

1999 Group leader at CWI, Anna born 25th October

2001 Prof TU/e, Multimedia and Internet Technology

Amsterdam Hypermedia Model

Welcome to Amsterdam **CWI**

This hypermedia application allows you to explore the city of Amsterdam.

Leisure activities
Walking routes
Maps

You can return to this screen by using the contents button on every other screen.

Many of the houses and canals in ...

Contents   Gables

The canal houses are famous for ...

Contents   Musicians

Veel van de huizen en ...

De grachtenpanden zijn ...

Researcher to group leader

- SMIL W3C recommendation (15 June 1998)
- Innovation award 1998
- Oratrix founded by Dick Bulterman
- Anna arrived 25th October 1999
- Professorship at TU/e 2001

2009 Prof UvA, Multimedia Interaction
2011 Cluster leader at CWI (Centrum Wiskunde & Informatica)
2016 Prof UU, Multimedia Discourse Interaction
2018 Manager Research & Strategy, CWI

To push or not to push?
That is the question

- It's not just what you know, it's who you know
  - that's how you get pulled into things
- Be aware when you are being pulled and when you are pushing
- Sometimes the pulling feels like it comes too soon
  - If someone else thinks you are ready for the next step, then you probably are
- When you get pulled, you don't learn how to push
- Beware! When you push, you mustn't appear "pushy"

Tips 1

- Be aware of how people communicate
  - Some styles may annoy you. Work out why. You can still learn something from them.
  - Be aware of how you communicate
- Ask questions (I'm good at this)
  - always good, you learn stuff
  - makes the other person feel they are interesting (which they are!)
- Tell stuff too (I'm less good at this)
  - tell something that will be useful to them
  - allows them to remember you.

Tips 2

- With every interaction think explicitly about what is in it for you
  - The only person looking out for your interests is you. Everyone else is looking after their interests. This is a neutral observation. Be aware of it. Don't become paranoid

- Be memorable.
  - Say interesting things. (If you open your mouth, make sure something useful comes out.) Be nice to people – they have long memories

- Learn from the guys
  - what they say, how they say it, when they say it, to whom they say it. Don't compete, use your own angle

- Don't whine
  - Having explained what you want, and having failed to get it, analyse the situation, seek advice
  - Try something else, or admit the effort is not worth it

Times they are a-changin'

- Declaration on Research Assessment (DORA)
  - https://sfdora.org
- Recognition & Rewards
  - https://recognitionrewards.nl
- IE Informatics Research Evaluation report
  - https://www.informatics-europe.org/component/phocadownload/category/10-reports.html?download=76:research-evaluation-2018
- Should you be worried about evaluations?
  - Many more students now than we could have imagined even 5 years ago
  - The field needs you!

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