

Course no: CS 7123

Course Title: Research Seminar

# Interviewing an Expert Researcher

Professor Interviewed

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Interviewed by

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**Question 1:** How do you start a research project?

**Professor:** First we think of a simple idea to publish. Then we search for the related works about the idea and again think of the idea if it is a new contribution or not. If it is a contribution, then we start the project. Otherwise modify the idea to be a new contribution.

**Question 2:** What specific tools do you use (e.g., library resources, computer software, form of measurement, statistics)?

**Professor:** We use some program to experiment early guesses. If the problem is storage related, then we use different type of storage to see the performance in them. We use simulation to see this performance.

**Question 3:** How did you gain your expertise with the various tools you use?

**Professor:** Years of experience is main thing to be an expert. During a project we decide if the existing tools are enough or not for the project. If existing tools are not enough, we search for the required tools.

**Question 4:** What are the important experience you suggest for a novice researcher?

**Professor:** A novice researcher should read a lot and find something more efficient that no one thought before. But he must first know the related works very well so that he ends with a work that is already done.

**Question 5:** If I want to learn how to become a component researcher, what specific tools would you suggest I work with?

**Professor:** You have to understand your scope well to be a component researcher. You have to know the input you receive from your group mate and the output you give to another group mate. You should collaborate with others if they change something in their model.

**Question 6:** How do you manage deadlines?

**Professor:** Sometimes you have to work harder to meet the deadline. Normally we try to finish the work of writing the paper 2/3 weeks before the deadline so that if something goes wrong, we have time to fix that. But if we cannot catch a deadline, then we catch next conference.

**Question 7:** Do you believe in fixed time of working for students or you prefer flexible timing?

**Professor:** Research is a 24 hour job. May be you go to home and you get an excellent idea. So you can work when you want.

**Question 8:** How do you help your students if he cannot meet your expectation which is hampering

the overall project?

**Professor:** I sit with them to discuss. Sometimes the problem may be so tough or the student need some background study which I show them.

**Question 9:** How many students do you have and how frequently you meet them?

**Professor:** I have two PhD students now and I meet them twice a week. When the deadline comes, I meet thrice a week.