

How can I develop a successful research career?

Subtitle: If I knew then what I know now...

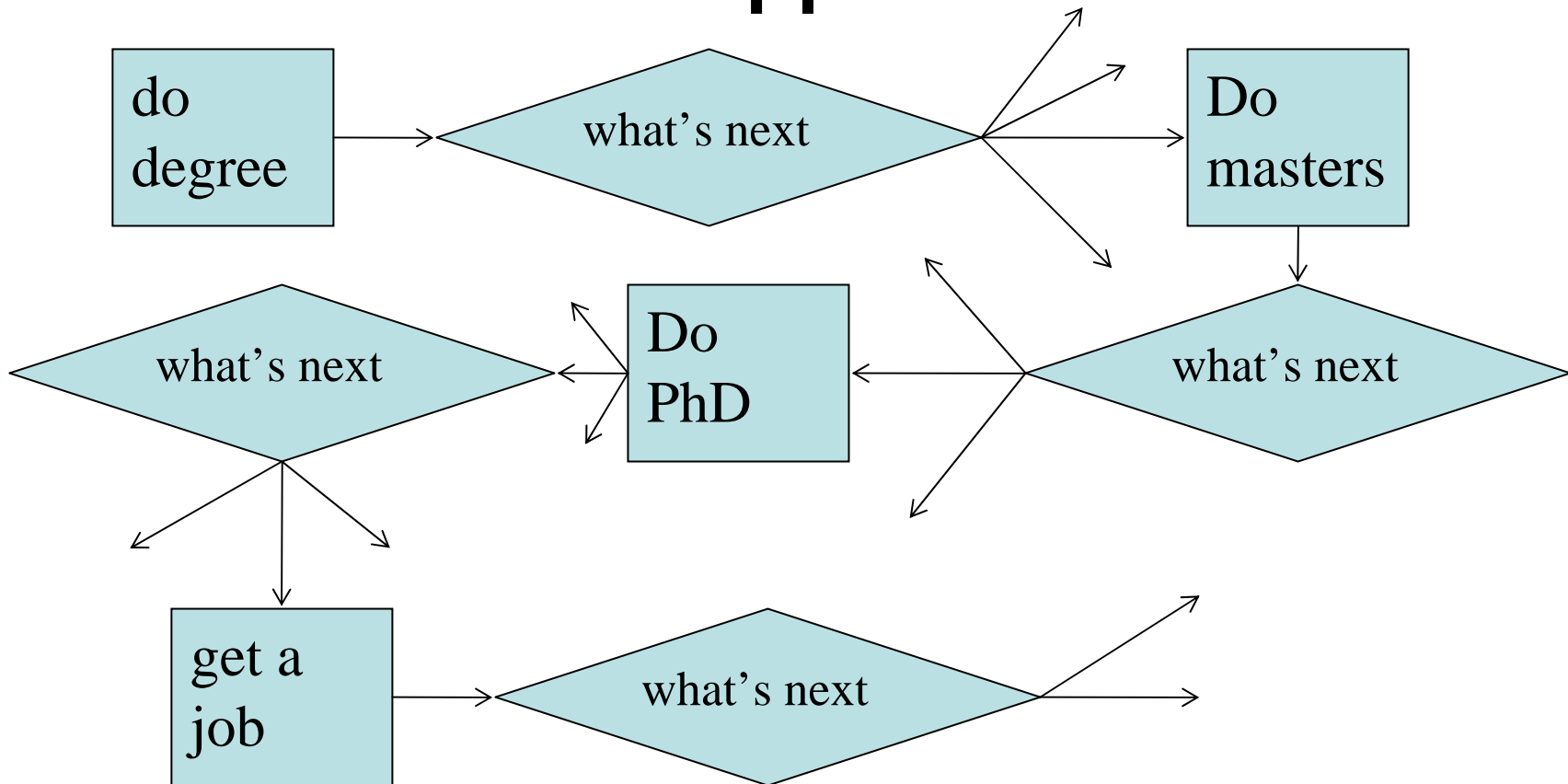
Prof Gill Dobbie

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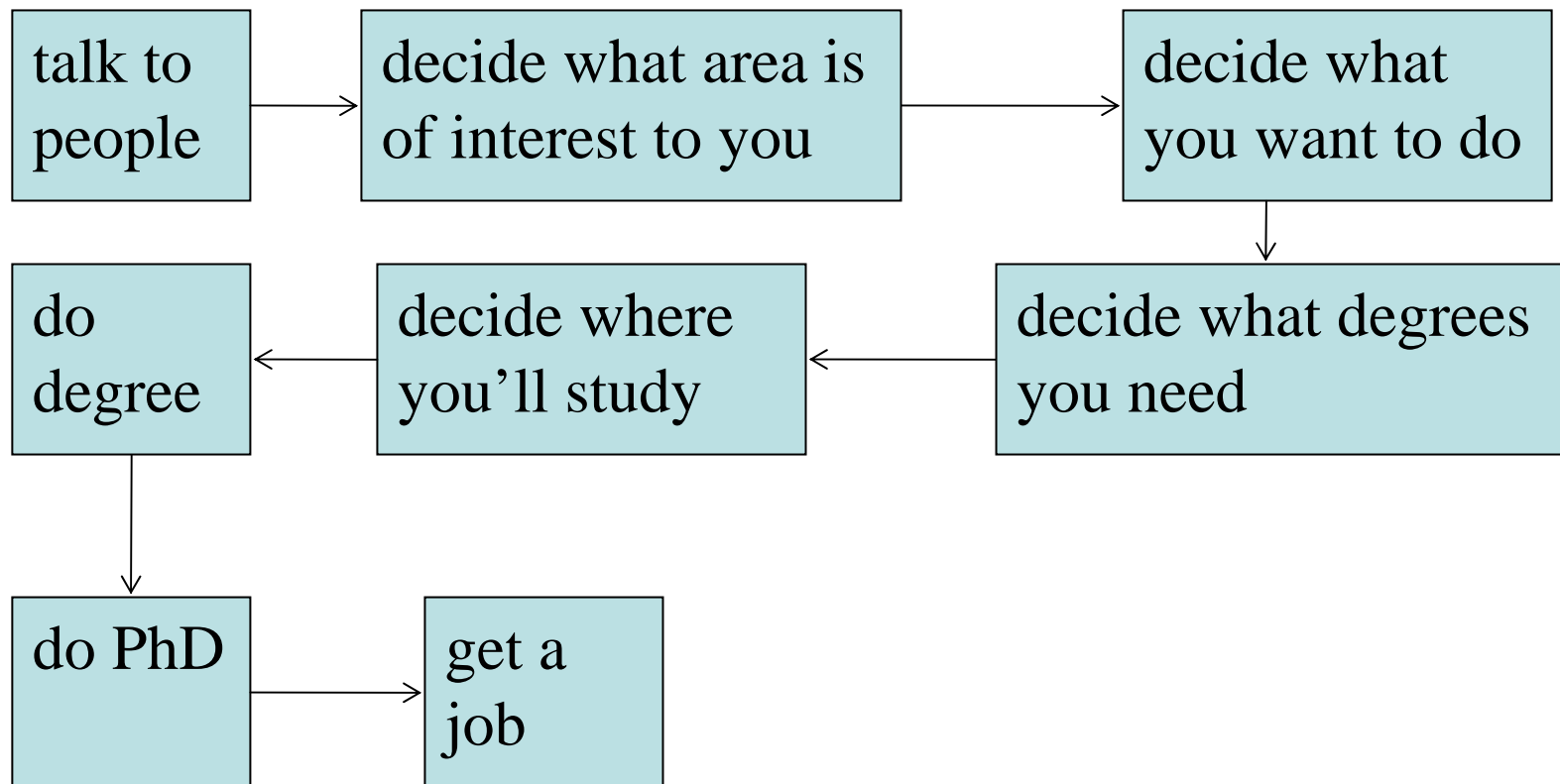
3 approaches to developing a research career

- What's next? approach
- I will do this! approach
- Hybrid approach

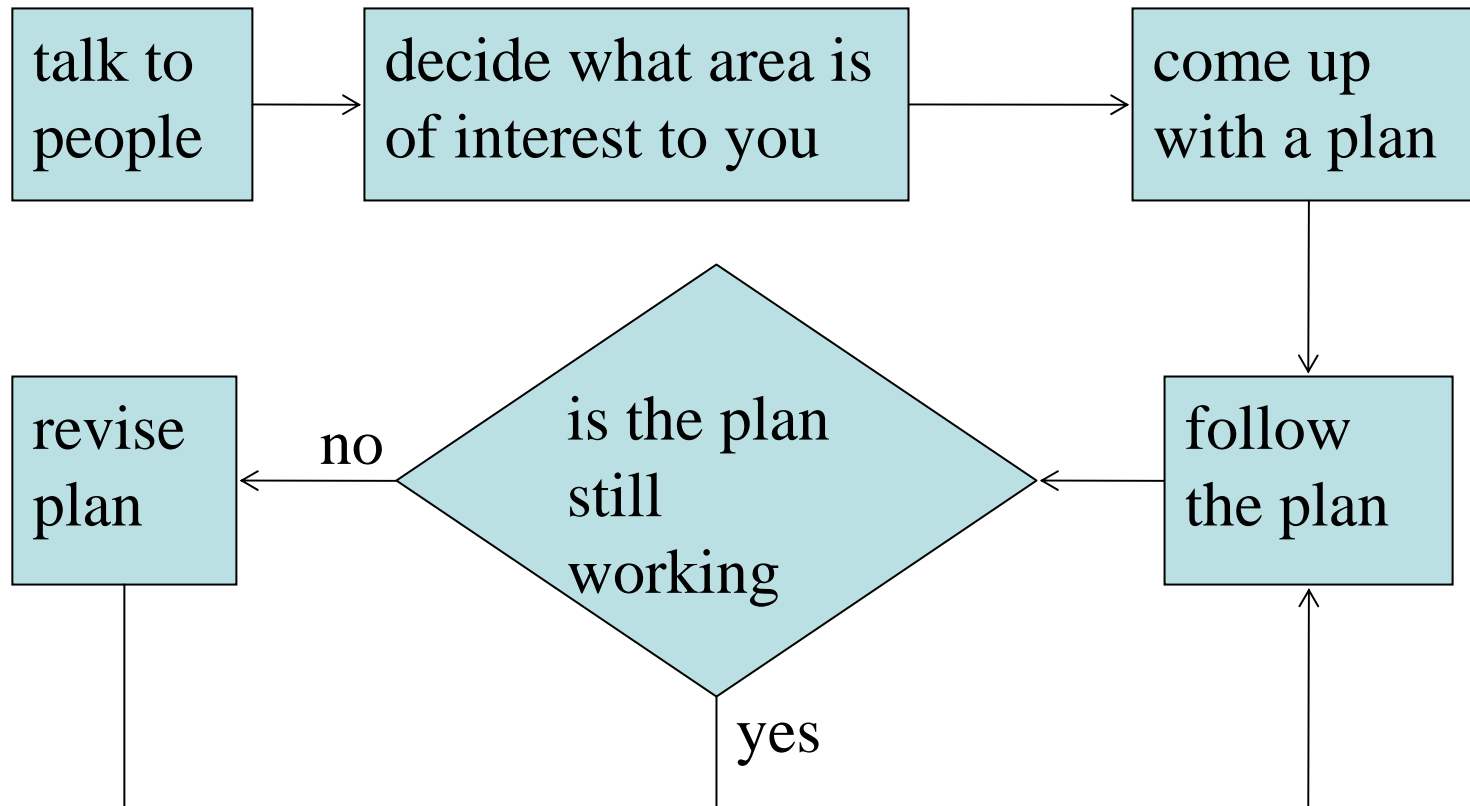
What's next? approach



I will do this approach



Hybrid approach



One piece of advice

- Stick mainly to one research area
 - Why? You need to be able to explain what your research area is. It's important to be known for that area. You are known within NZ for your research area, but you are also known in the community in which you work for your work in that area. Building networks is important for furthering your career. Think of your research heroes – can you say what area they work in? Think about people you have seen at the conference – do they have they have a research theme throughout their career?

How do you decide on a research area?

- Talk to others
- What is your area (think broadly)?
- Can you do research in this area, with others in *CS*, e.g. visualisation, theory, HCI, measuring?
- Can you do research in this area, with people in other *faculties*, e.g. medicine, law, engineering, business, geography?
- Can you do research in this area, and collaborate with *industry*, e.g. medicine, health, electricity?
- Can you set up a *research centre* around your research area, e.g. Bioengineering – mathematical modeling of biological things.

Two lessons learned

- Presentation is very important – both verbal and written.
 - Things that you do have long term unforeseen consequences. If you make sure that everything that you do is carefully thought through, the future should be smooth! The world is small.
- Respect others and their work.
 - The world is small. You will continue to see the same people. Someone who is your junior now may become your boss later. They could be on your interview panel later, or you may need a reference from them. People are generally keen to help you, they are not trying to make your life difficult (although that may be how you see it at the time).