

# THE PHD MOVIE



**AT Nanyang Technological University!**

**5 pm, Fri 13 Jan 12, LT 2A**

[phdcomics.com/movie](http://phdcomics.com/movie)

# THE PHD MOVIE “SEMINAR”

(Fri 13 Jan, 5 pm, LT 2A)

**Abstract** (no decent seminar is announced without an abstract)

“**Piled Higher and Deeper**” the movie is a live-action adaptation of the popular online comic strip by **Jorge Cham** ([www.phdcomics.com](http://www.phdcomics.com)). It was filmed on location at and was produced in partnership with the California Institute of Technology (Caltech). The film introduces audiences to the unique and funny culture of academia and follows four graduate students as they struggle to find balance between research, teaching and their personal lives with humour and heart.

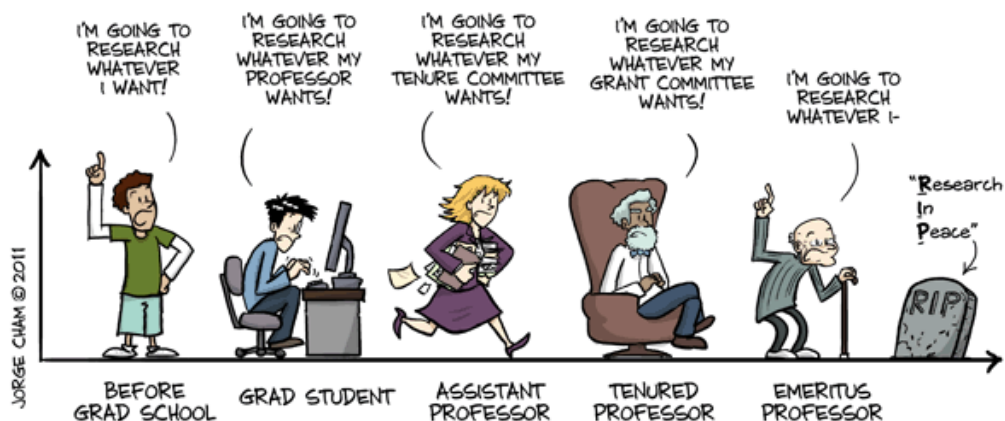
(<http://www.phdcomics.com/movie/aboutmovie.html>)

**Jorge Cham** received his Bachelor’s degree from Georgia Tech in 1997, and earned his Ph.D. in mechanical engineering from Stanford, where he also started his popular comic strip, “Piled Higher and Deeper”. He is currently working as an instructor and researcher on neural prosthetics, at California Institute of Technology (Caltech).

**The movie officially premiered at Caltech on 22 Sep 2011**, and has hit screens at campuses on every continent, including Antarctica (Center for Remote Sensing of Ice Sheets in McMurdo, Antarctica). It has been screened at Harvard, Stanford, Princeton, MIT, Yale, John Hopkins, McGill, ETH, Imperial College London, ANU, IIT Bombay, Karolinska Institute, Cambridge, Oxford, and many more international and acclaimed universities and institutes. In December 2011, the movie was screened at National University of Singapore (NUS) and the Agency for Science, Technology and Research (A\*Star).

A sample of Jorge Cham’s work published on 20 Jul 2011,

## THE EVOLUTION OF INTELLECTUAL FREEDOM





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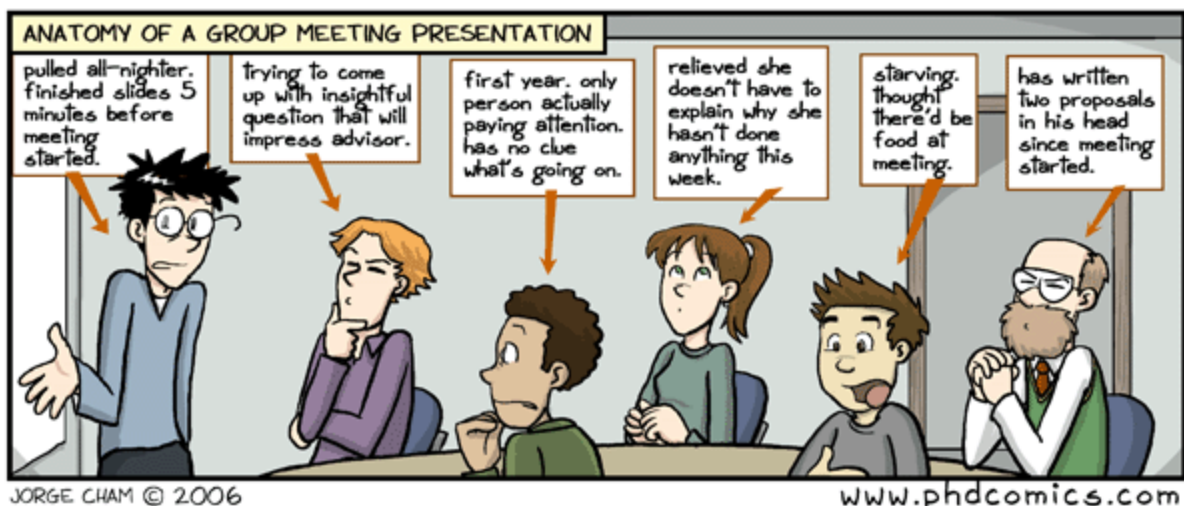
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A sample of Jorge Cham’s work published on 4 Jun 2006,



LIFE IS TOUGH. THEN YOU GRADUATE.



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A sample of Jorge Cham's work published on 18 Jan 2004,

**DECIPHERING ACADEMESE** YES, ACADEMIC LANGUAGE CAN BE OBTUSE, ABSTRUSE AND DOWNRIGHT DAEDAL FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE, WE PRESENT A SHORT THESAURUS OF COMMON ACADEMIC PHRASES

|  |   |   |                                 |   |   |
|--|---|---|---------------------------------|---|---|
| "To the best of the author's knowledge..."             | = | "WE WERE TOO LAZY TO DO A REAL LITERATURE SEARCH."                            | "It should be noted that..."    | = | "OK, SO MY EXPERIMENTS WEREN'T PERFECT. ARE YOU HAPPY NOW??"                      |
| "Results were found through direct experimentation."   | = | "WE PLAYED AROUND WITH IT UNTIL IT WORKED."                                   | "These results suggest that..." | = | "IF WE TAKE A HUGE LEAP IN REASONING, WE CAN GET MORE MILEAGE OUT OF OUR DATA..." |
| "The data agreed quite well with the predicted model." | = | "IF YOU TURN THE PAGE UPSIDE DOWN AND SQUINT, IT DOESN'T LOOK TOO DIFFERENT." | "Future work will focus on..."  | = | "YES, WE KNOW THERE IS A BIG FLAW, BUT WE PROMISE WE'LL GET TO IT SOMEDAY."       |
|  |   |   | "...remains an open question."  | = | "WE HAVE NO CLUE EITHER."   |

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