CAREER: Deterministic Shared Memory Multiprocessing: Vision, Architecture and Impact on Programmability

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• Start thinking about it early
  – Simple notes here and there go a long way
• Talk to as many people as you can
  – This will help you refine how you “sell” it
  – Start discussing related ideas in conferences
    • You might be talking to a potential reviewer
• Topic:
  – The newer the better, obviously
  – But make sure you have track record in the general area
  – It is ok (and perhaps good) to be related to your thesis, since it will be clear you can make progress towards it
• Scope:
  – Broad but feasible, high potential impact but never forget that it has to be believable that you can do it in 5 years.
Teaching

• Much more important than I could have anticipated
• No need to change the world in teaching (research is the focus), but say something meaningful
• Show that you did homework
  – Find papers on teachings things related to the subject of research
  – Think about way how tools/method you develop in research can help teaching
• Perhaps try to mention K-12 in a non-trivial way 😊
• My case:
  – Finding ways of better teaching parallel programming
My timeline

• Thought about it in the background for about 3-4 months
• 6 weeks ahead started heavy lifting of writing
• Had a complete draft 2 weeks before deadline
  – Give to people to read it, get feedback but be careful not to get an overwhelming amount
• Consider hiring professional editor
  – Helps make sure the text is smooth and clean
  – Best $ I spent that year, since not only it helped with the document a lot, I also learned quite a bit
• Ah, I spent a *lot* of time in the summary