

Wednesday 20th May, 2015

**Summary: CICASP Seminar 03
Elevator Talk**

An “Elevator Talk” is a short, spoken self-introduction and promotion, usually less than 2 minutes long. Imagine that you are at a conference and you see someone whose work you really admire. Here is your big chance to speak to them, let them know who you are, and perhaps get the opportunity to talk more, or even to work with them. This person may be rushing to grab a cup of coffee in a break between conference talk sessions, or they may be on their way to speak to someone else. You have a 1 or 2 minute window of opportunity to tell them who you are, what you do and why they should care. This Seminar was all about practising to ensure that you can make the most of such an opportunity when it appears.

M1 students had all prepared their spoken self-introduction beforehand. In the Seminar, they practised giving their elevator talk to more experienced students, listening. With each round of self-introduction practise, the time limit was decreased, right down to 1 minute in the last round. Students had timed their talks very accurately, and by the end of the class every M1 student gave their elevator talk in under 2 minutes.

Wednesday 27th May, 2015

**Outline: CICASP Seminar 04
Asking and Answering Questions after a Presentation**

Our next block of CICASP Seminars will cover how best to ask and answer questions after presentations, whether at PRI Section Seminars or at huge international conferences. In their time at PRI, every student will be required to give talks in both these contexts. This will involve answering audience questions after each talk. Students are encouraged to ask questions at seminars and at conferences.

The idea behind this first seminar is to describe different approaches to asking and answering questions and to demonstrate some of the ways this can be done badly and how it can be done well. You will learn about how to ask questions of a speaker, and answer questions from members of an audience, effectively, clearly and confidently. Crucially, the following seminars will then allow you to practise these skills in a friendly environment.