

Research Agenda Development of Scientific Researchers

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Research Design & Questions

- 11 semi-structured interviews
- Grounded theory methodology
- Research questions
 - How do scientific researchers develop their research agenda?
 - What helps or hinders the development of that agenda?
 - What can institutions do to help foster development of research agendas?

Initial Findings

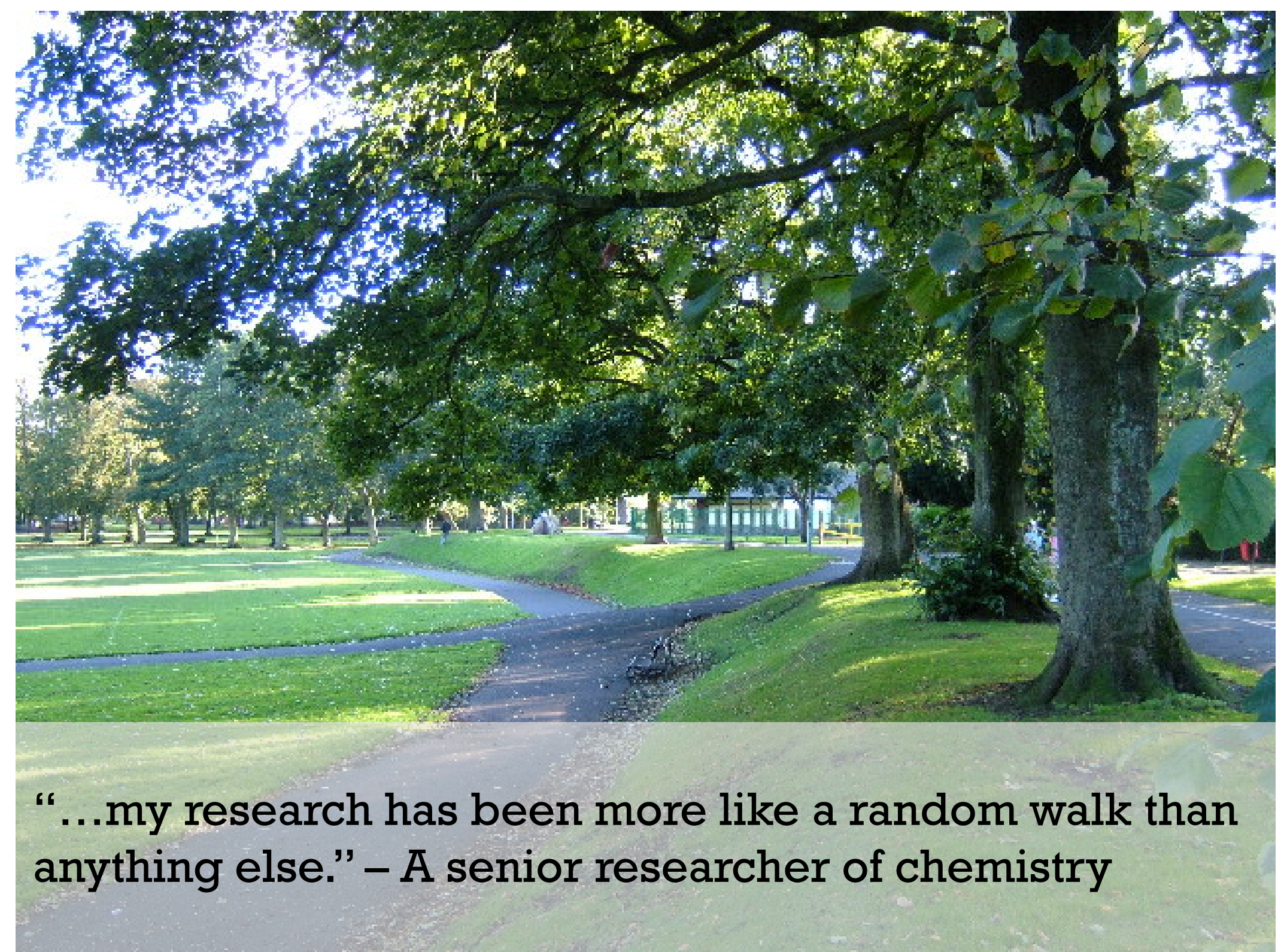
- Serendipity plays a larger part of a researcher's career path than initially thought.
- Funding has more influence on a researcher's career than initially thought.
- The development of new technology often sets a researcher's career into a new area that was never before possible.
- Researchers frequently stick with a specific focus simply because their graduate students need to graduate and have something to show.

Notable Quotes

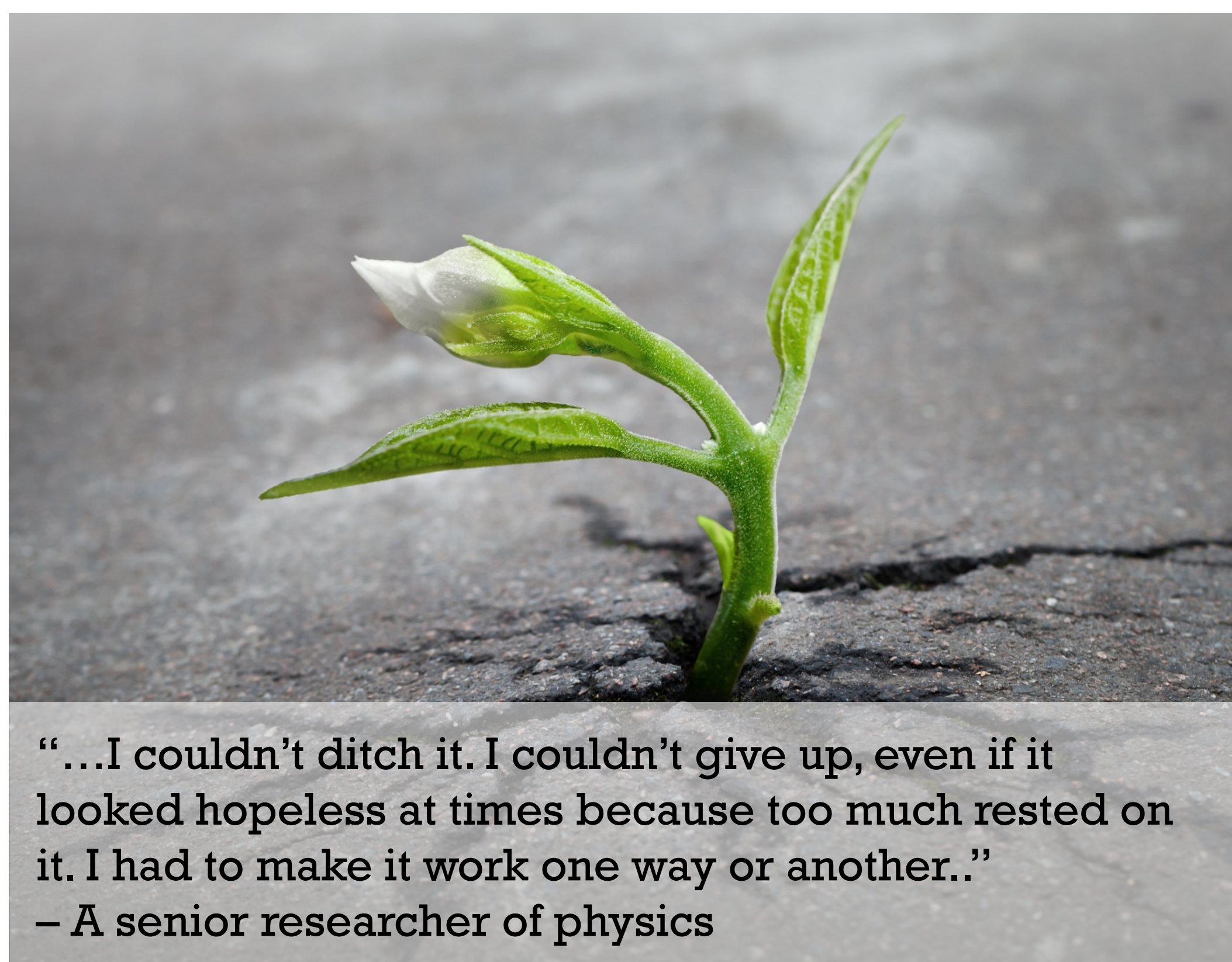
On rolling with the punches



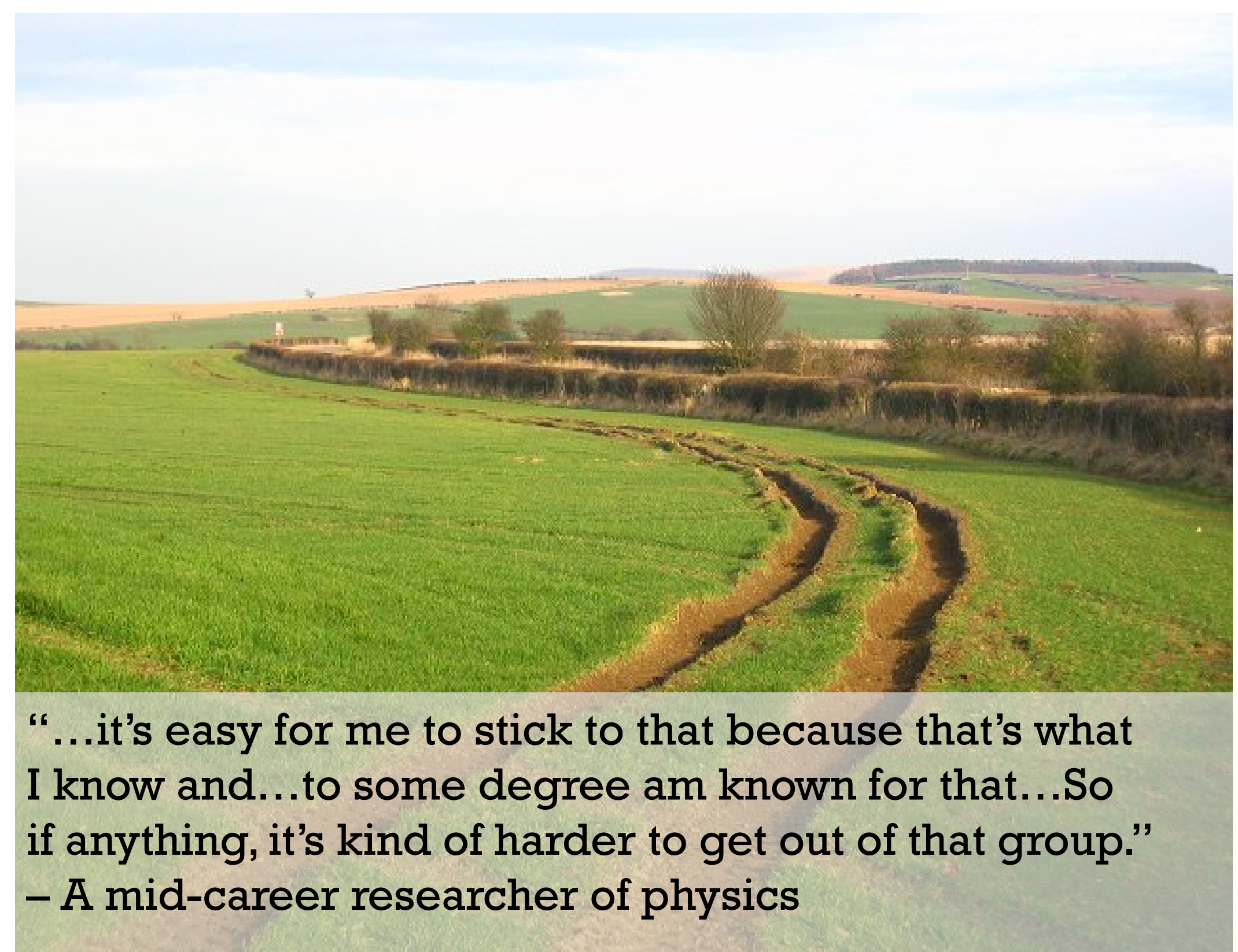
On developing a research agenda



On determination



On getting stuck in a rut



Future Directions

- Continue to analyze transcripts.
- Present final findings at RDA P10 in Montreal.
- Submit article for review to journal T.B.D.

How Can RDA Help?

- Easier access to research data could help early-career researchers get a jumpstart on their career.
- Development of standards & products could help level the playing field.
- Having strong collaborators is often cited as one ingredient of a successful project. RDA provides fertile ground for collaborations.