

Dissertation Forward: Rethinking the PhD Thesis



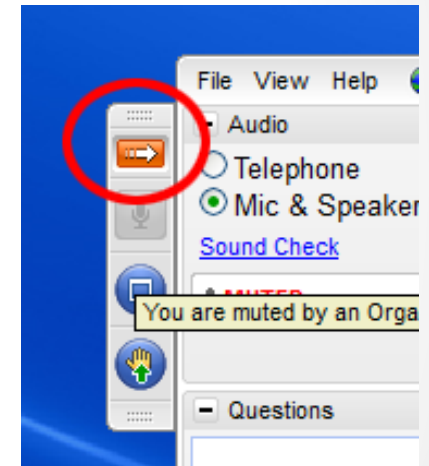
Christopher Loss, Vanderbilt University

Cassidy Sugimoto, Indiana University Bloomington

Moderator: Maureen McCarthy, Council of Graduate Schools

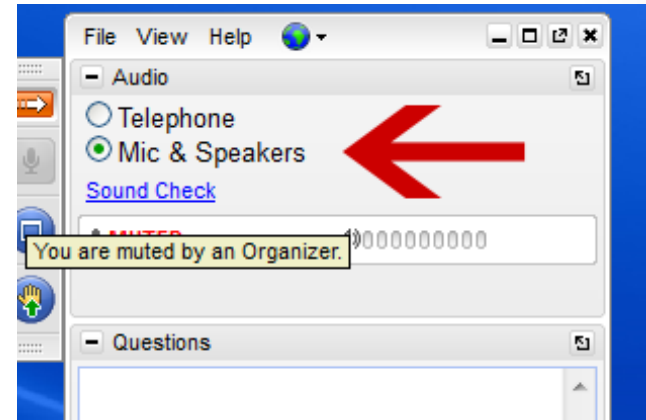
Plan for today

- **Two presentations of approximately 20 minutes each, followed by a Question & Answer period.**
- **Please submit any questions through the GoToWebinar control panel on your screen.**
- **Technical issues? Troubleshooting help available at**
http://support.citrixonline.com/en_US/webinar

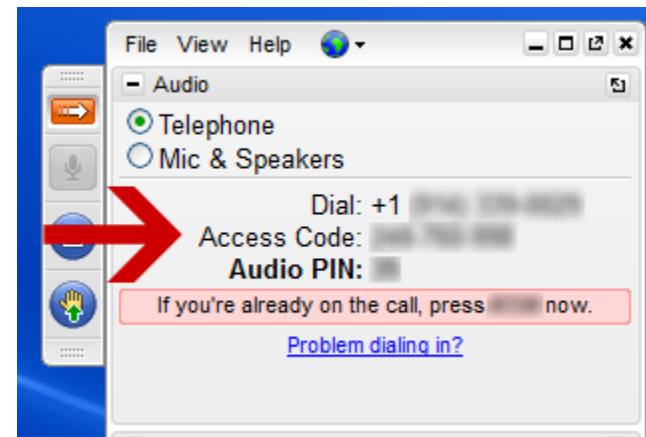


Audio Troubleshooting

- Having trouble hearing us? Try switching to a different audio connection. You can change from Telephone to Mic & Speakers or vice versa without leaving the session.



- If you experience trouble with a telephone connection, click “Problem dialing in?” for an alternate phone number to dial.



Dissertation Forward: Rethinking the PhD Thesis



Christopher Loss, Vanderbilt University

Cassidy Sugimoto, Indiana University Bloomington

Moderator: Maureen McCarthy, Council of Graduate Schools



Christopher P. Loss

Associate Professor of Public Policy and Higher Education; Associate Professor of History; Chancellor Faculty Fellow (2016–18); and Director of the M.Ed. Program in Higher Education Administration, Dept. of Leadership, Policy & Organizations

Vanderbilt University

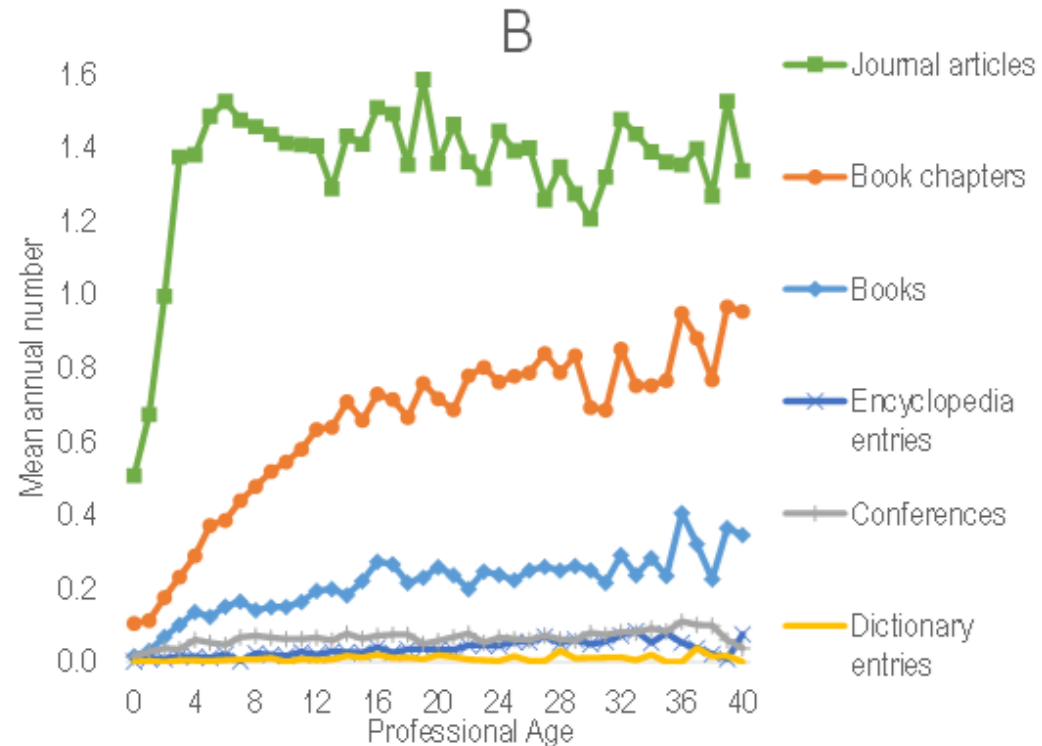
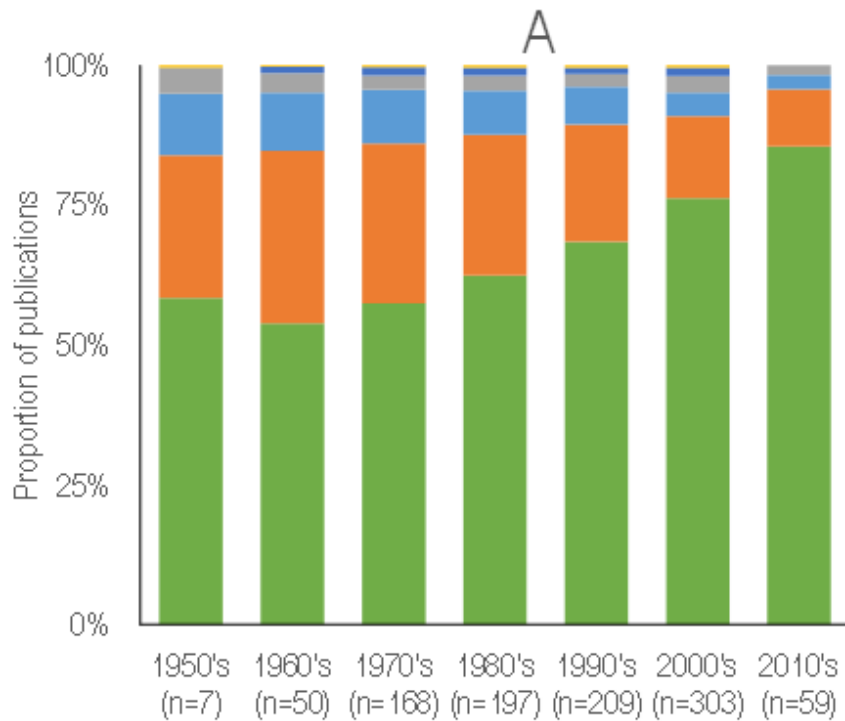
Toward a 21st century dissertation

Dr. Cassidy R. Sugimoto
School of Informatics and Computing

**19th century
dissertations are
anachronistic in the
21st century.**

**Dissertations
should reflect the
genre conventions
and inventions of
the home
discipline(s).**

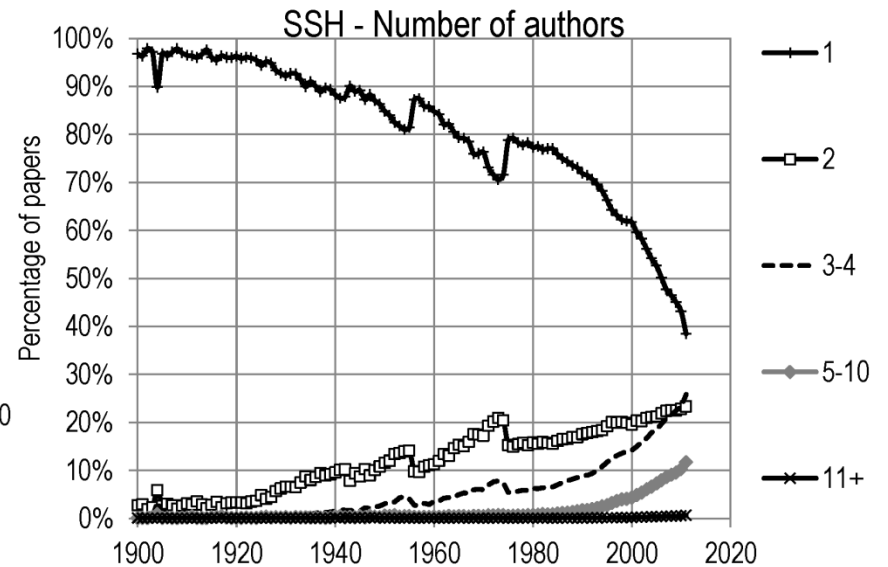
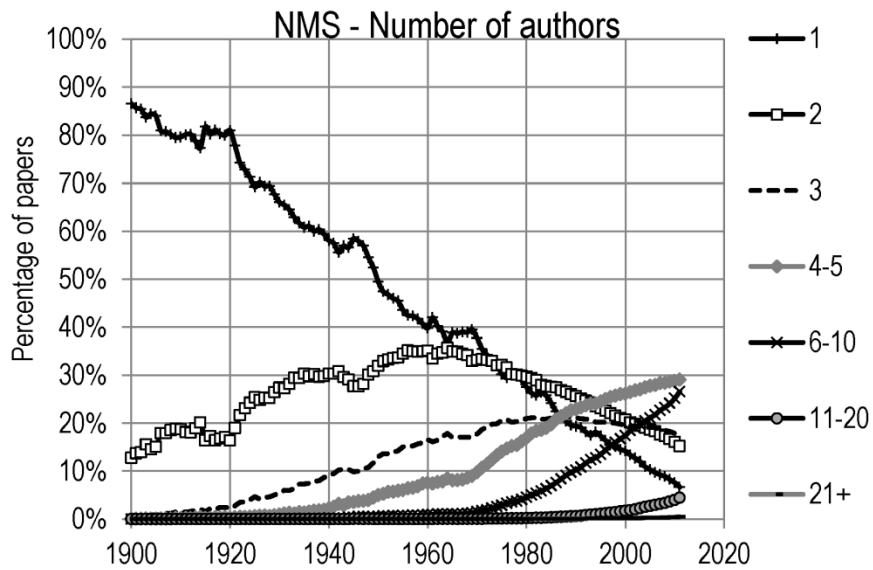
Changing genre compositions



Economics, Political Science, and Sociology

**Teams are the
new academic
persona.**

Diminishing place of sole authored work

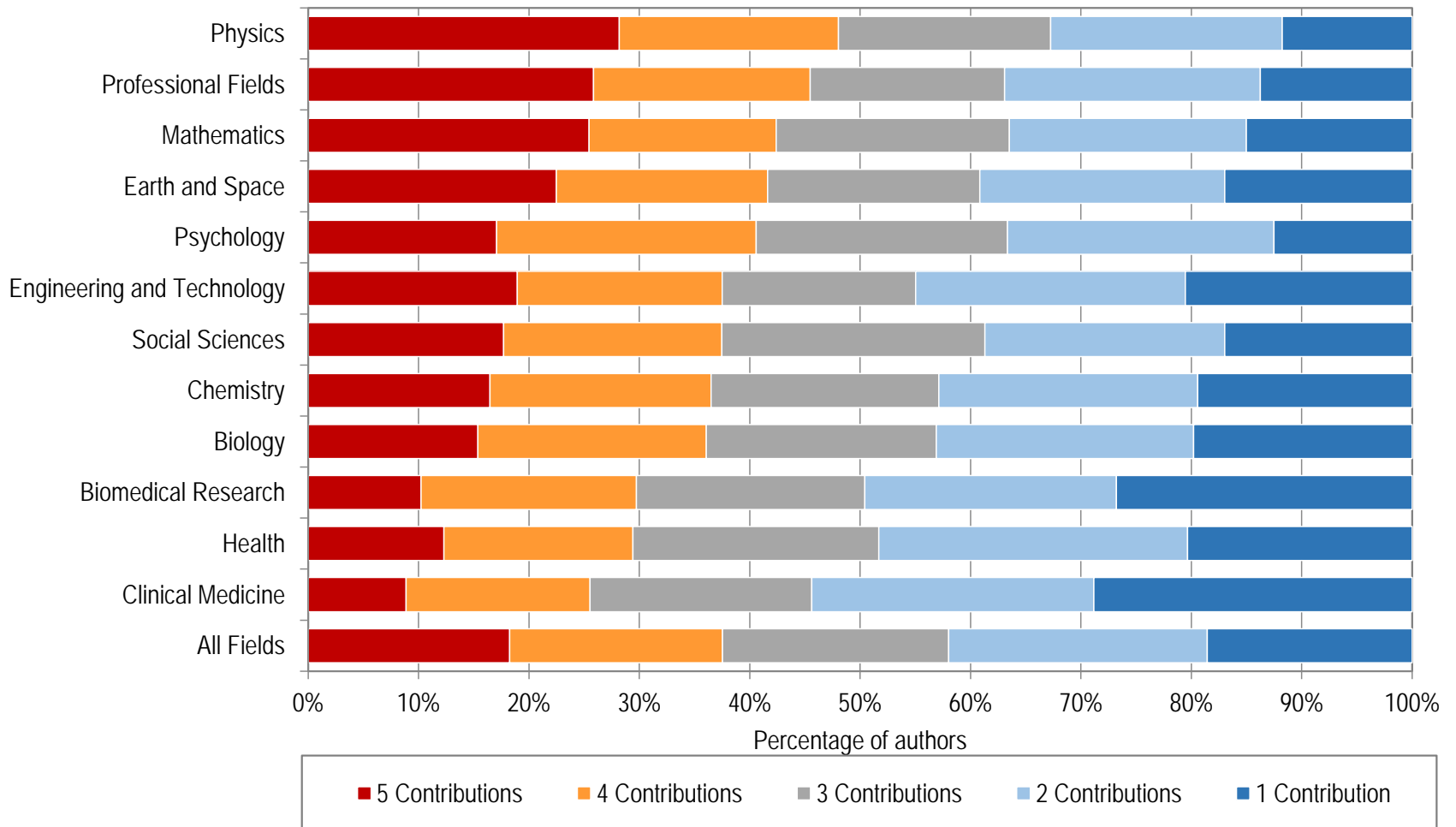


**Contributionship
models
acknowledge
distributed
expertise.**

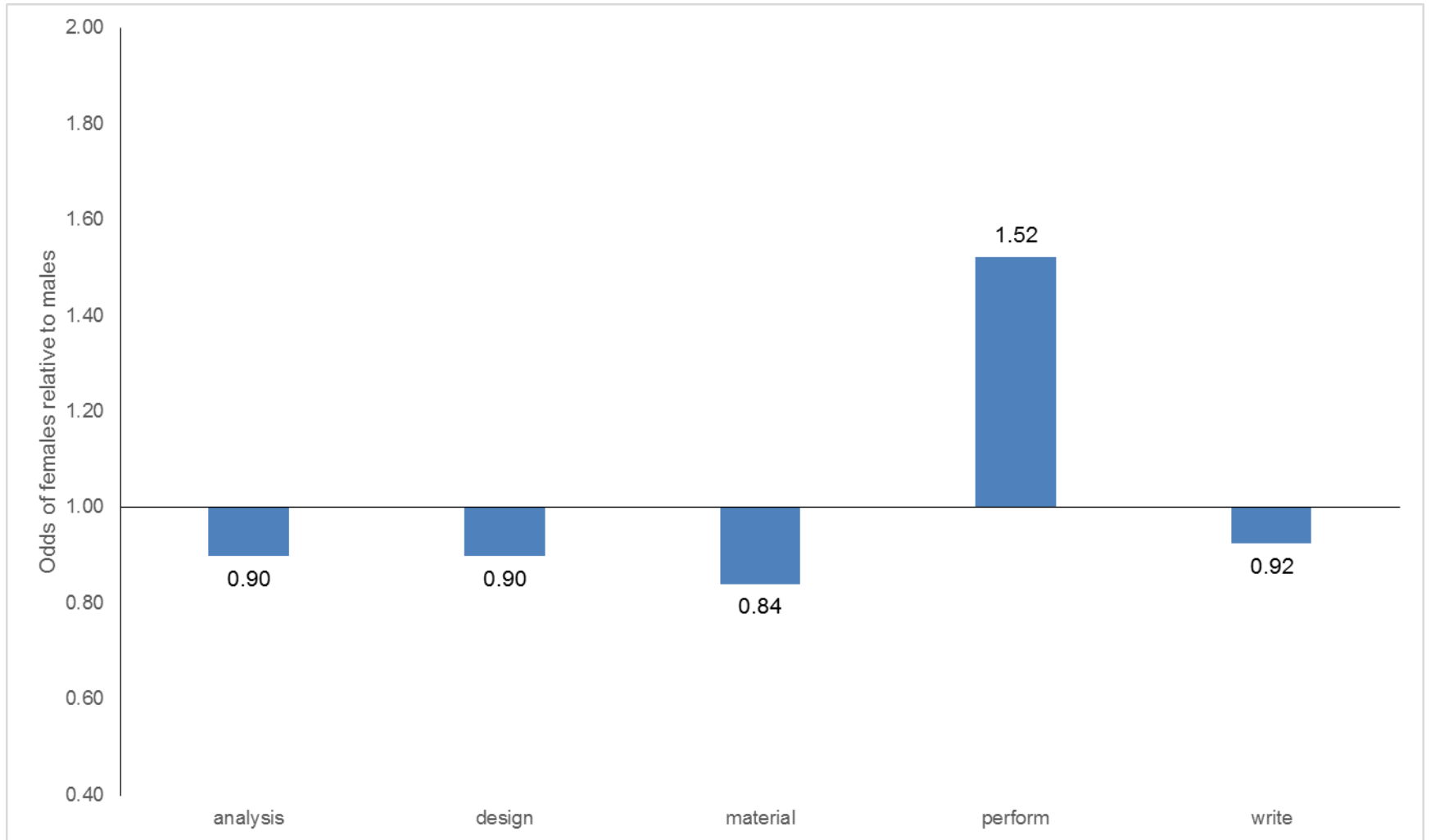
PLoS Contributorship data

Contribution	Articles		Author-article combinations	
	N	%	N	%
Analyzed the data	85,900	98.7%	320,080	50.6%
Conceived and designed the experiments	85,406	98.2%	288,765	45.6%
Contributed reagents/materials/analysis tools	64,444	74.1%	220,331	34.8%
Performed the experiments	82,811	95.2%	311,679	49.3%
Wrote the paper	86,517	99.4%	287,796	45.5%
<i>Other (20 243)</i>	<i>15,900</i>	<i>18.3%</i>	<i>79,978</i>	<i>12.6%</i>
N distinct papers	87,002	100.0%	632,799	100.0%

Distribution of authors as a function of their number of contributions, by discipline

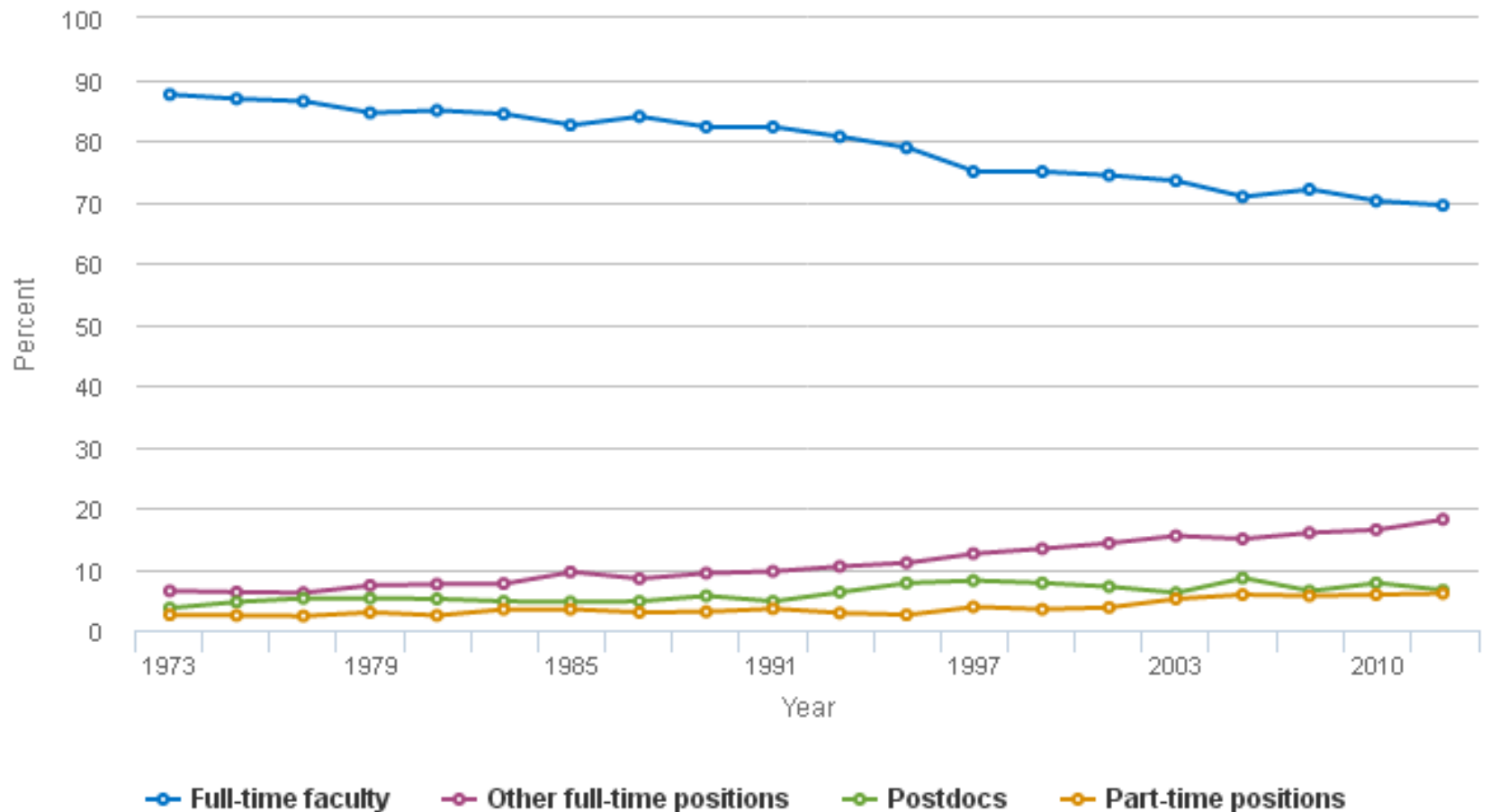


Odds of females performing a task relative to males

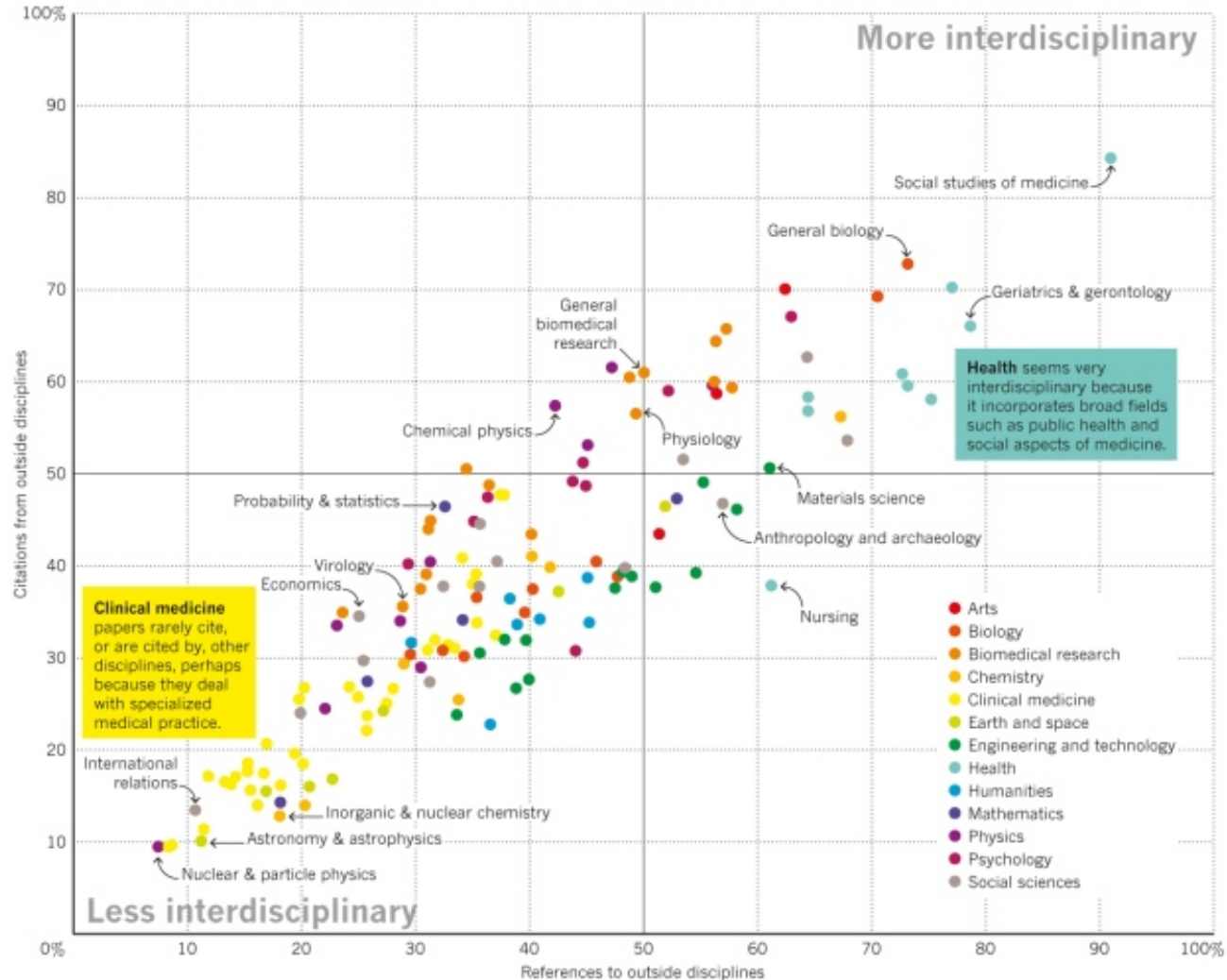


**Standards in
credentialing must
acknowledge the
heterogeneity of
the job market.**

Science and Engineering doctorate holders employed in academia: by type of position (1973-2013) (S&EI, 2014)

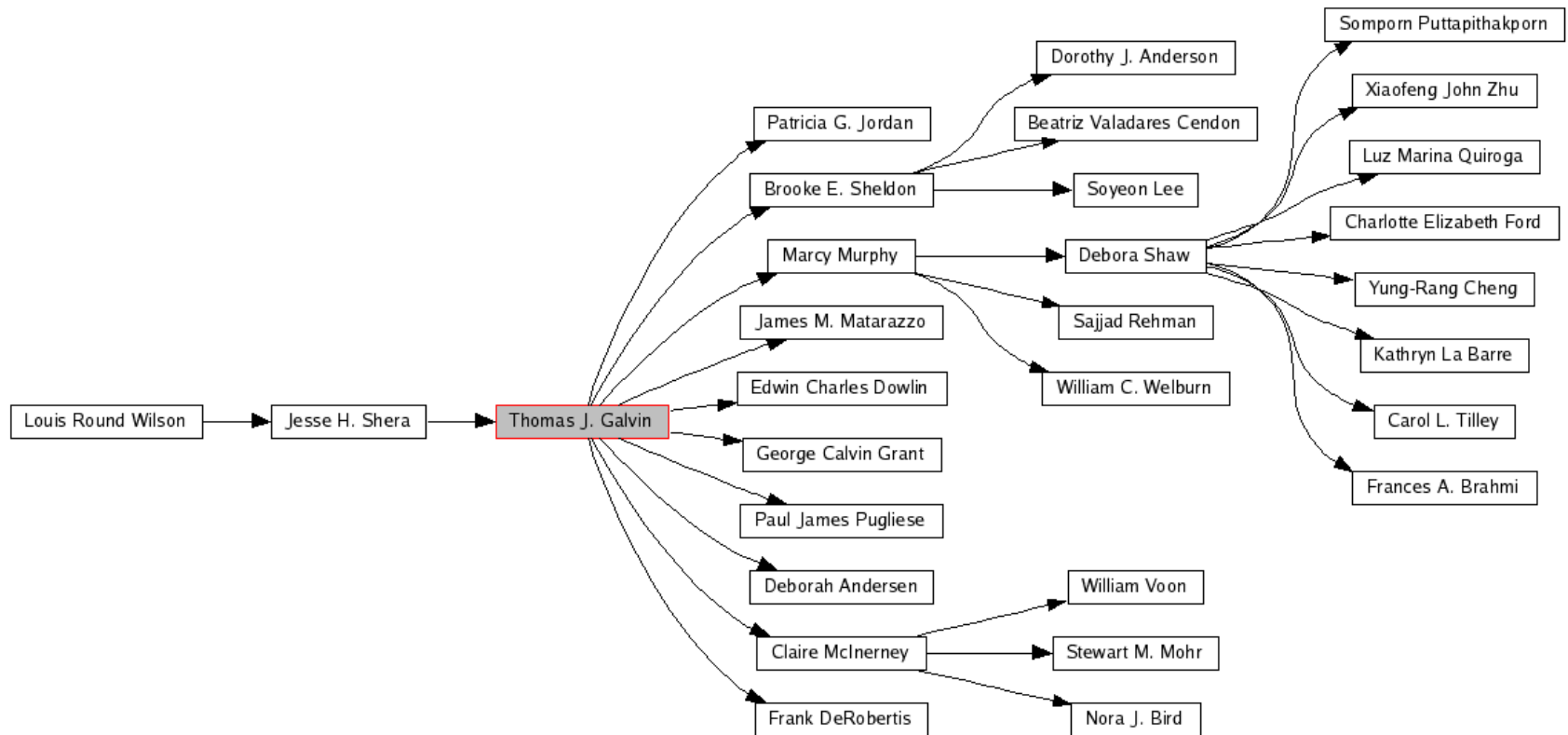


Growing rates of interdisciplinarity

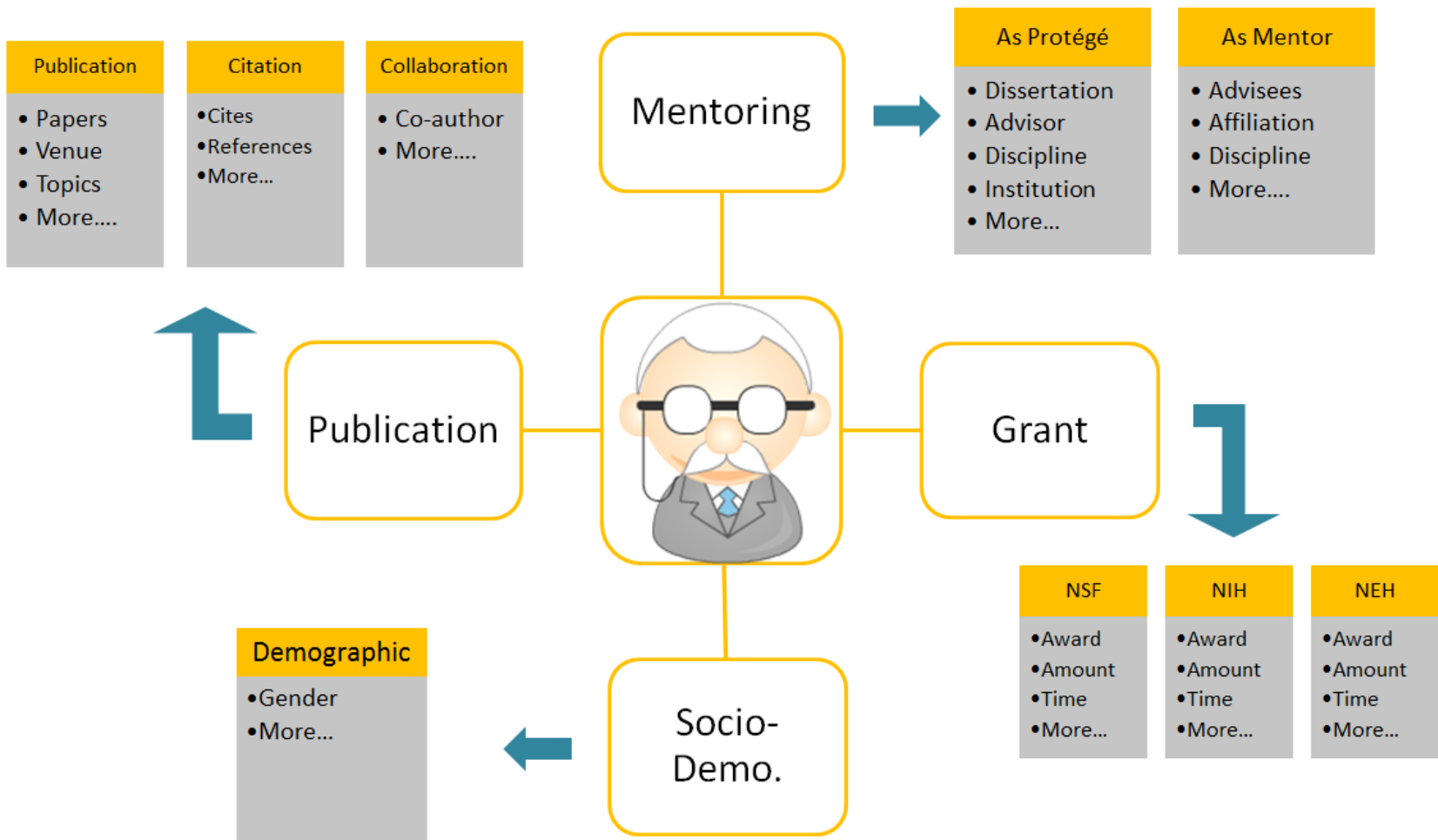


**Doctoral students
and dissertations
are inputs as well
as outputs of
scholarship.**

Academic genealogy



**Doctoral
education should
be the entrance
into open and
linked
scholarship.**



**Doctoral
education should
educate and
prepare, not haze.**

**The 21st century
dissertation
will
continue to
evolve.**

Thank you!



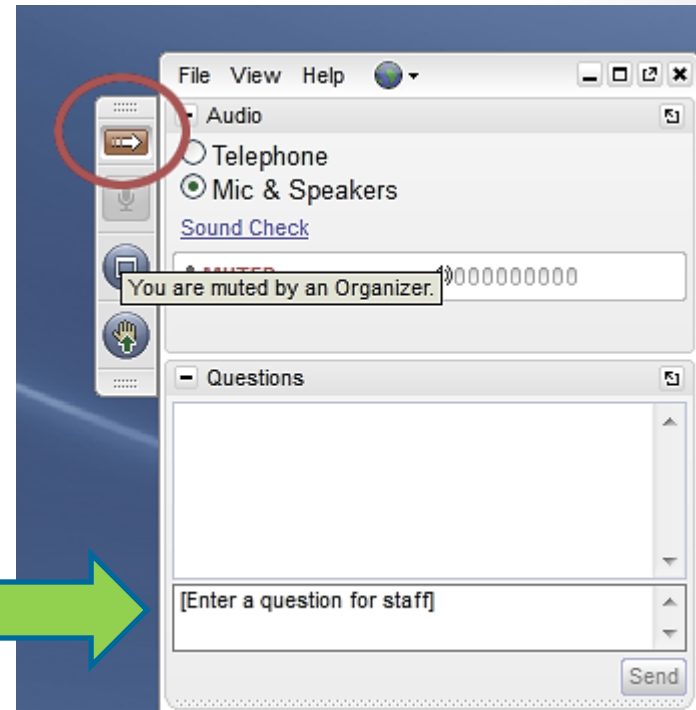
Questions?

CONTACT
CASSIDY R. SUGIMOTO
SUGIMOTO@INDIANA.EDU WITH
QUESTIONS



Questions?

Please submit your questions by typing them into the Questions box on the GoToWebinar control panel.



Thank You for Participating!

- **Webinar recording and slides will be emailed to participants and posted on the CGS website within one week of the webinar. Please share with interested colleagues**
- Check out the proceedings from the [Jan. workshop](#)
- Attend the 2016 **CGS Annual Meeting** session, “The Future of the Dissertation” ([early bird registration](#) is open)
- Follow [#DissFwd](#) on Twitter