Principles to Thrive in the Research Community

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Good Citizens of CVPR 2018

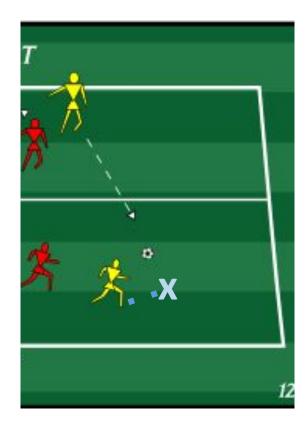In choosing research directions, be **part of the team**

Don't crowd the ball
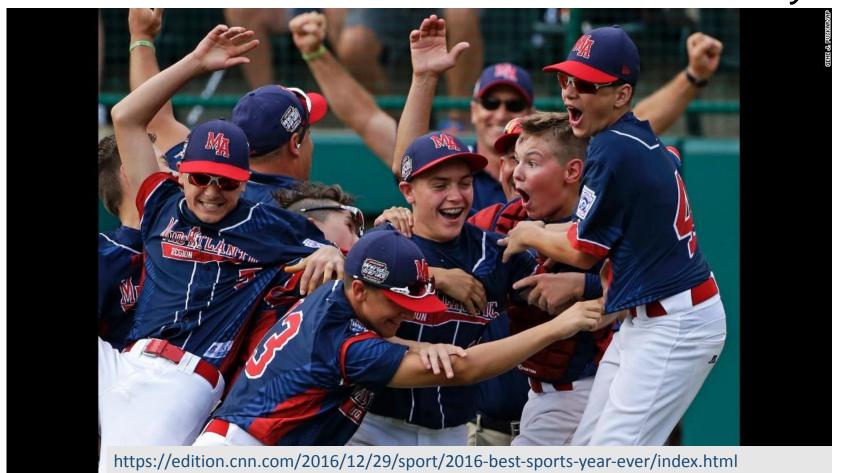
Don't crowd the ball. Find your position.

- What is your unique perspective or angle in this research?

- How can your research influence others? How can you best advance the community as a whole?

- Sometimes you *should* run at the ball (i.e. work on the popular topic)

Aim ahead of your target

- What will be the big problem once the currently popular problems are "solved"?

Celebrate the wins of the vision community

GENE J. PUSKAR/AP

In paper writing and reviewing,
focus on potential to teach

Author

- Aim to teach and inspire, not impress

Reviewer

- Look for what the paper can teach you (or an interested researcher)

- Try to avoid putting much weight on whether the topic is interesting
  - We tend to be biased in novelty estimates toward hot topics and our own research areas
  - Nobody really knows which directions will make the biggest impact. E.g., David Lowe's 1999 SIFT paper was a poster

Area chair

- Invest in assigning to reviewers who you think will enjoy reading the papers

- Focus on whether the paper can teach something new – does at least one person think so and have good reason?

- Advocate for papers that are creative or technically strong but are not in fashion

Grow and adapt in your career

Career choices: seek growth opportunities

- Avoid becoming root-bound
  - Keep branching out and exploring new topics and new roles

- Choose activities with potential for learning as well as potential for impact

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Principles to Thrive

- In choosing research directions, be part of the team
  - Find how you can best contribute
  - Anticipate and address upcoming problems
  - A win for the vision community is your win too

- In writing and reviewing, focus on the paper's ability to teach

- In your career, grow and adapt