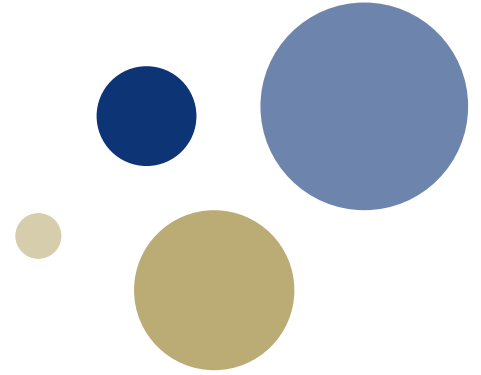




**NTNU – Trondheim**  
Norwegian University of  
Science and Technology



## **Career possibilities with a PhD**

**John Krogstie**  
**Professor in Information System**  
**Department Head**  
**IDI, NTNU**

# Background


- Siv.ing (Master) and PhD IDI (1991, 1995)
- Employed 9 years in Andersen Consulting (Accenture)
- 2000-2005 senior researcher in SINTEF Digital (Oslo)
- Started as Professor at IDI 1.august 2005 (earlier part-time position for 7.5 years)
- Vice-dean IME-faculty 2009-2013
- Currently department head at IDI



# The first 5 year plan

- After finishing the master in 1991, started to work in Andersen Consulting (Accenture)
  - Work 2 years as a consultant
  - Start on a PhD, finish that in 3 years
- (those days, the research council had individual grants if you had good grades)
- Did my research on IT development methodology, thus wanted to have practical experience before doing research

# The second 5-year period



- Due to family concerns wanted to move to the Oslo area
- No open academic post at University of Oslo at that time
- Got offers from SINTEF, Sysdeco (a software company) and Andersen Consulting (had actually never quit)
- Started (again) in Andersen Consulting because I there could work across a lot of different technologies and project sizes

# 1. Vs 2. period in Andersen Consulting



- Traditional project work vs expert
- International projects in both periods (but methodology development vs. traditional worker)
- Methodology expert across the company (development and adaption of methods)
- Knowledge management expert across the company
- Kept up a (small) scientific activity, had adjunct position . (First adjunct associate professor, from 2000 adjunct professor)

# Next 5 years

- Senior researcher at SINTEF Oslo
- Wanted to do more research oriented work
- PhD a necessity to be a project manager on research council projects
- (but many start in SINTEF with just master, but underway do a PhD)
- Research being valued more than in industry of course, but a heavy pressure on sales
- Combination of EU and Norwegian projects

# 2005 until now – back at NTNU

- PhD necessary, but not sufficient for an associate or full professor position
- Within the system: PhD -> PostDoc/Researcher (usually somewhere else) -> Associate Professor -> Professor (alternatively 1.lektor -> Dosent)
- Many international opportunities, e.g. to do PostDoc other places, open positions other places
- Large autonomy, but also high expectations
- Approximately equal split between research and teaching (at a university)