

Tips and tactics for successful PhD research

Abstract

In this speech, Professor Sarkar will reflect upon his experience to discuss tips and tactics for successful PhD research. It draws information from several PhD supervisions to completions from the proposal to the oral examination (viva-voce). Professor Sarkar has successfully supervised over 35 research students and has examined about 30 PhD theses (mostly from Australian Universities). He is currently a primary supervisor for six PhD students and has a wealth of experience to share with emerging researchers.

Bio



Nurul Sarkar is a Computer Scientist specialising in network design, modelling, and performance evaluation. He is a Professor and Director of the Network and Security Research Centre at the Auckland University of Technology (AUT), New Zealand. He holds a PhD in Electrical and Computer Engineering from the University of Auckland. Before this, he completed his master's in Electronics in 1991 and Computer Science in 1996 from the University of Otago and the University of Canterbury, respectively. Professor Sarkar has developed a strong pedagogy in completing his NZ Diploma of Teaching in 1997 and Tertiary Teaching in 2000 from the University of Canterbury and AUT, respectively.

Professor Sarkar is a regularly invited keynote speaker, chair, and committee member for various national and international fora. He has authored over 200 refereed articles (12+ Q1 journals since 2018) in network and communication journals, including the IEEE Communications Magazine, IEEE Internet of Things Journal, IEEE Transactions on Vehicular Technology, and IEEE Transactions on Education. He is a research assessor for MBIE and The Royal Society of NZ.

Professor Sarkar served as conference general co-chair for ITNAC'19 and Technical Programme Committee co-chair for ICOIN'23. In 2017, he was awarded the 'Best Paper Award' from the 31st ICOIN International Conference, and several IEEE Grants for the professional development of the members of the wider university community. He is the Chair of the IEEE Educational Activities Committee. He has been appointed as IEEE STEM Champion for his outstanding contributions to pre-university STEM education and community development in NZ. Professor Sarkar is a member of ACM and a senior member of IEEE, and the Australasian Association for Engineering Education.