Research Student Experience at RMIT University

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About Me

- Ph.D. Candidate 2006-2009
  - School of Electrical and Computer Engineering
  - Interfacial resistive properties of silicide thin films on silicon

- Research Fellow 2010-2012
  - Energy harvesting using piezoelectric thin films
First Year

- Importance of research training
  - Capability of using equipment
  - Proficiency in using software

- Literature review
  - Very important
  - Do not focus energy primarily on this for too long
  - Subscribe to TOC for journals of relevance

- Broad field - need to have a better and clearer picture at the end of 1st year

- START PUBLISHING
Second Year

- Work on 2-3 related projects or streams of the same project
- Work together
  - With other research students
  - With research collaborators nationally and internationally
- Discuss career options with research supervisor
- START PRESENTING YOUR WORK
Third Year

- Keep documenting your work and publishing
- Grant applications
  - For conference travel
  - To visit other research groups
- Aim to achieve independence
- WRITE YOUR THESIS
Summary

- First Year  − WORK HARD
- Second Year  − WORK SMART
- Third Year  − WORK INDEPENDENTLY