



Wir schaffen Wissen – heute für morgen

Workshop Research Integrity 2015

**Scientific mentoring – Mentors in science**

Monday June 30, 14.00 – 17.00

@ PSI OHSA/E13

Louis Tiefenauer, PhD, MASAE

# Workshop program

14.00	Start:	Welcome / Ethics in science	
14.00 – 14.15		Introduction of participants	all
14.15 – 14.50		“Mentors in science”	TL
14.50 – 15.00		Problems identified by HR	
15.00 – 15.20		Coffee break	
15.20 – 16.00		Workshop in 2 groups E13 /B19	TL / HR
16.00 – 16.30		Reporting group discussions	all
16.30 – 16.45		Plenary discussion	
16.50		Message to the PSI directory board	TL
17.00		Closing the meeting	

## Responsible Research

Relevant topic, valid data, reproducible results, in efficient way

Mentoring & Data management related

## Sloppy research practices

Ignorance, honest error or dubious integrity

Questionable research practice (QRP), weighted

1. Not publish a valid negative study
2. Bias from beliefs & conviction to conclusion
3. Not report replication problems
4. Conceal results that contradict earlier findings
5. Keep inadequate notes of research process

## Research misconduct

FFP: Fabrication, falsification, plagiarism

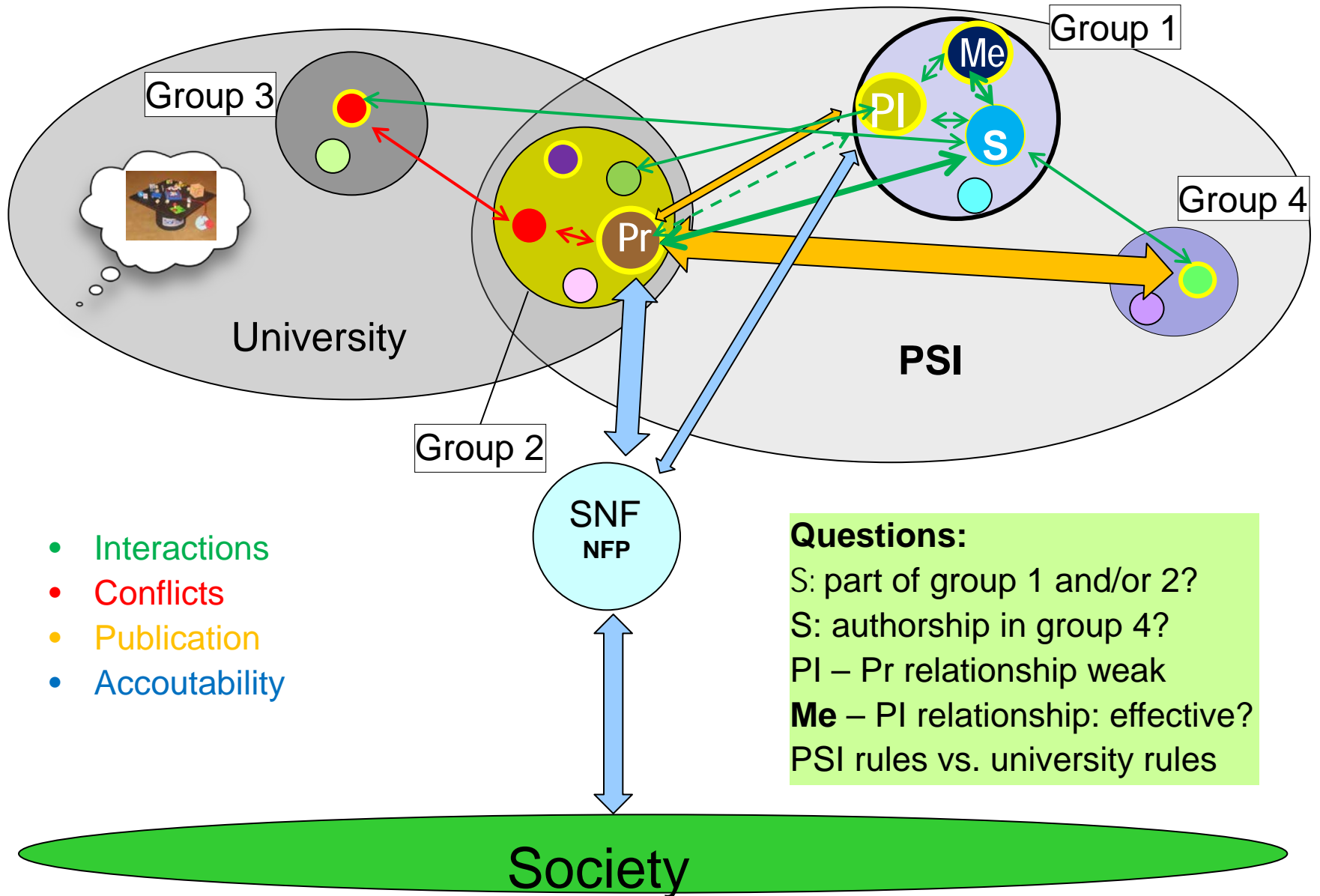
Reported as often (3<sup>th</sup> most frequent QRP, 10<sup>th</sup> most weighted (occurrence x severity)) misconduct in a poll:

*Insufficient supervise and mentor (junior) coworkers*

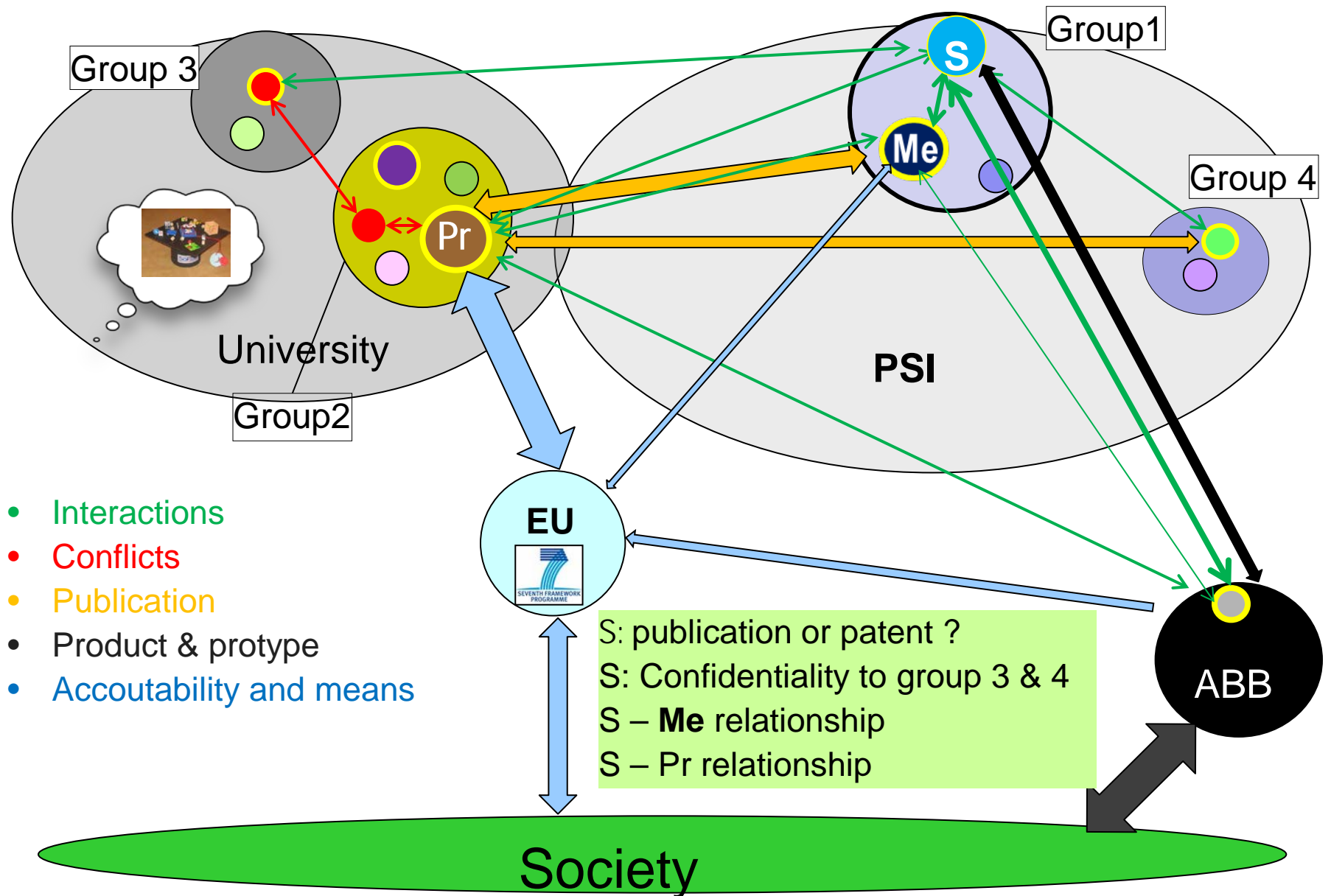
Comp.: Data fabrication: ranks at weighted position 24

Courtesy according Lex Bouter, Univ. Amsterdam

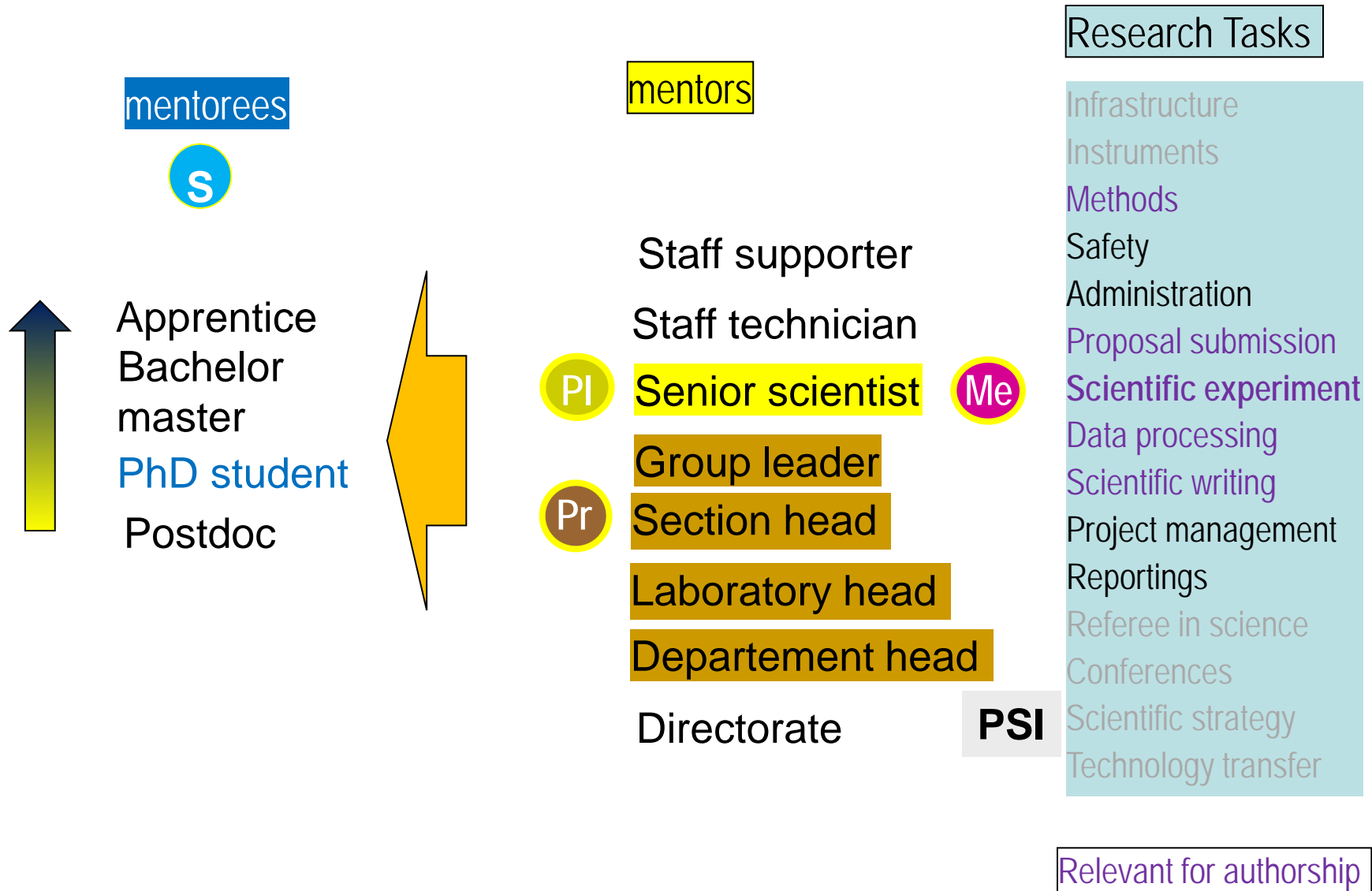
# Case 1: Mentor PI & Professor at PSI



# Case 2: Mentor at PSI & professor aboard

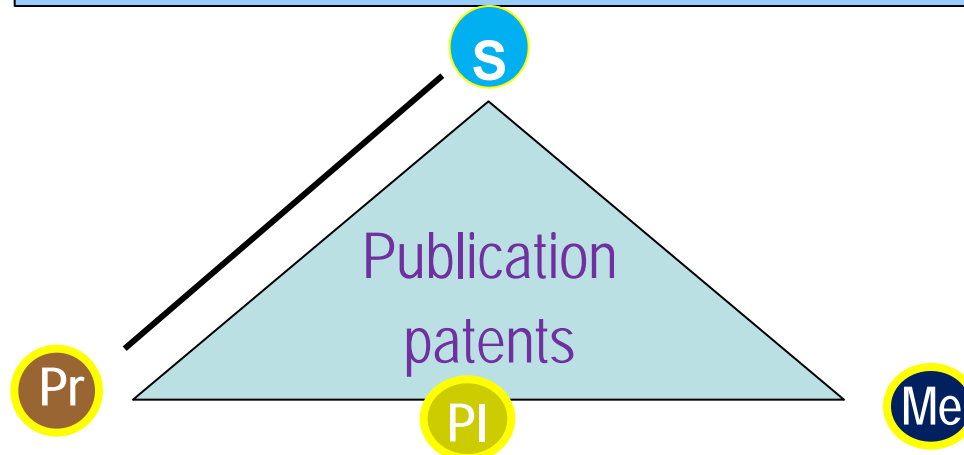


# Mentors and mentoree's



## Execute research work

- experiments
- data interpretation & reduction
- contribution to knowledge generation



## Lead research project

- Initiate, grant allocation
- Manage project
- Reports & assure output
- Education & **promotion**

## Coach students

- Provide detailed knowledge
- Bring in experiences
- Motivate & correct

Mentors are trusted **friends** providing advises and help

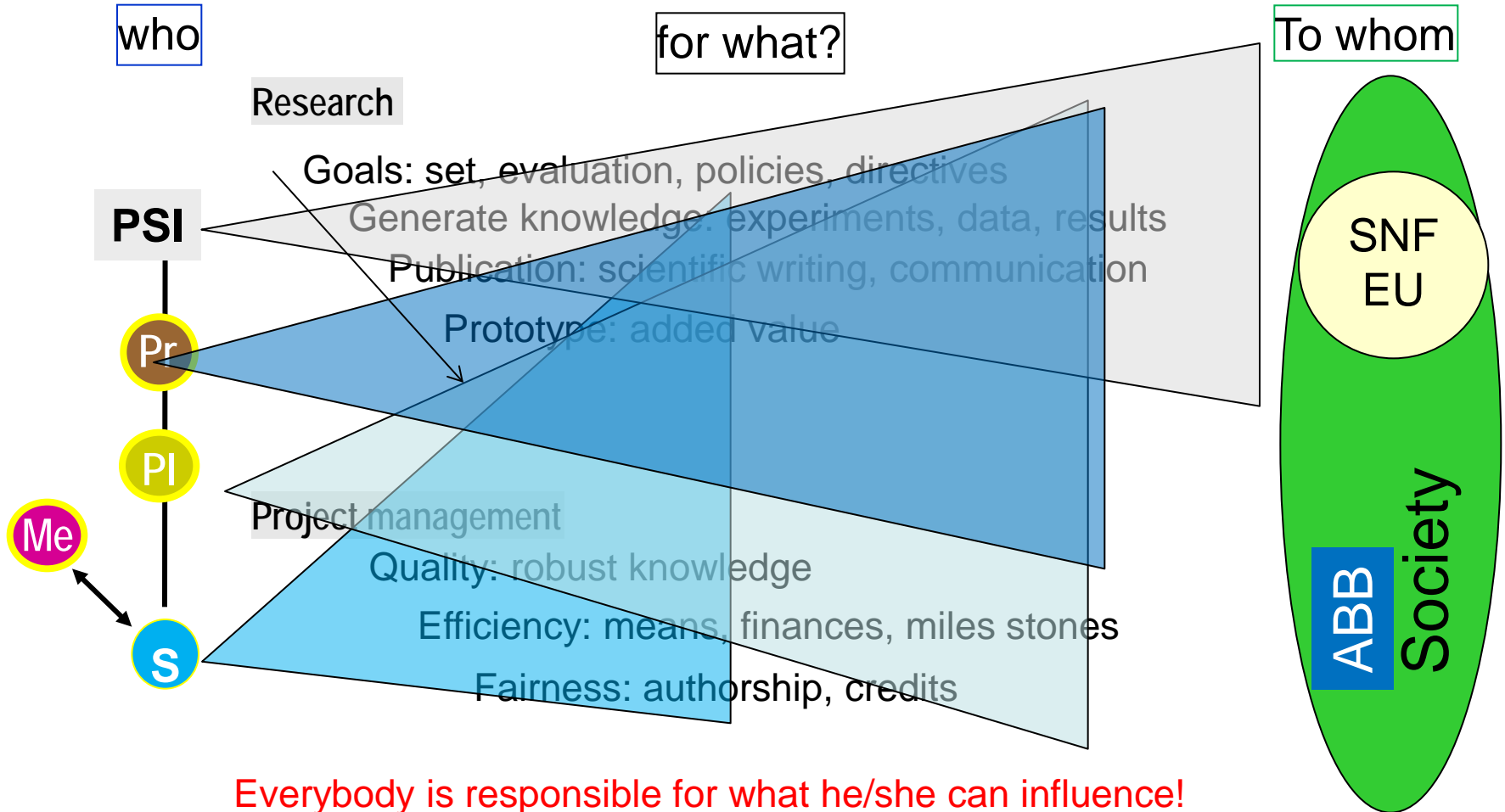
Advisor  
Developer  
Interpreter  
Protector  
Door opener  
Coaching  
Rule setter  
Role model

*Organization of work:* show, suggest, adjust the working plan  
*Group meetings:* participate, support, correct  
*Critical interpretation of data:* handling out-drops & grey zones  
*Clear presentation of results:* hints, rules, provide support  
*Behavior:* correct, give feedbacks, mediate, hints  
*Conflicts:* do not blame, defense, encourage  
*Safety:* observe, brief, control  
*Writing:* standards of community, judge journal impacts  
*Teach:* rules, guidelines, specific scientific issues  
*Recommend:* literature, courses, conferences  
*Control:* quality of work, achievements, misconduct  
*Early warning:* emerging problems  
*Supporting:* in administrative work, IT-problems, job search  
*Participate:* social events, informal talks, lunch  
*Provide:* dedicated help, material, methods



# Responsibilities in research

Different perspectives !

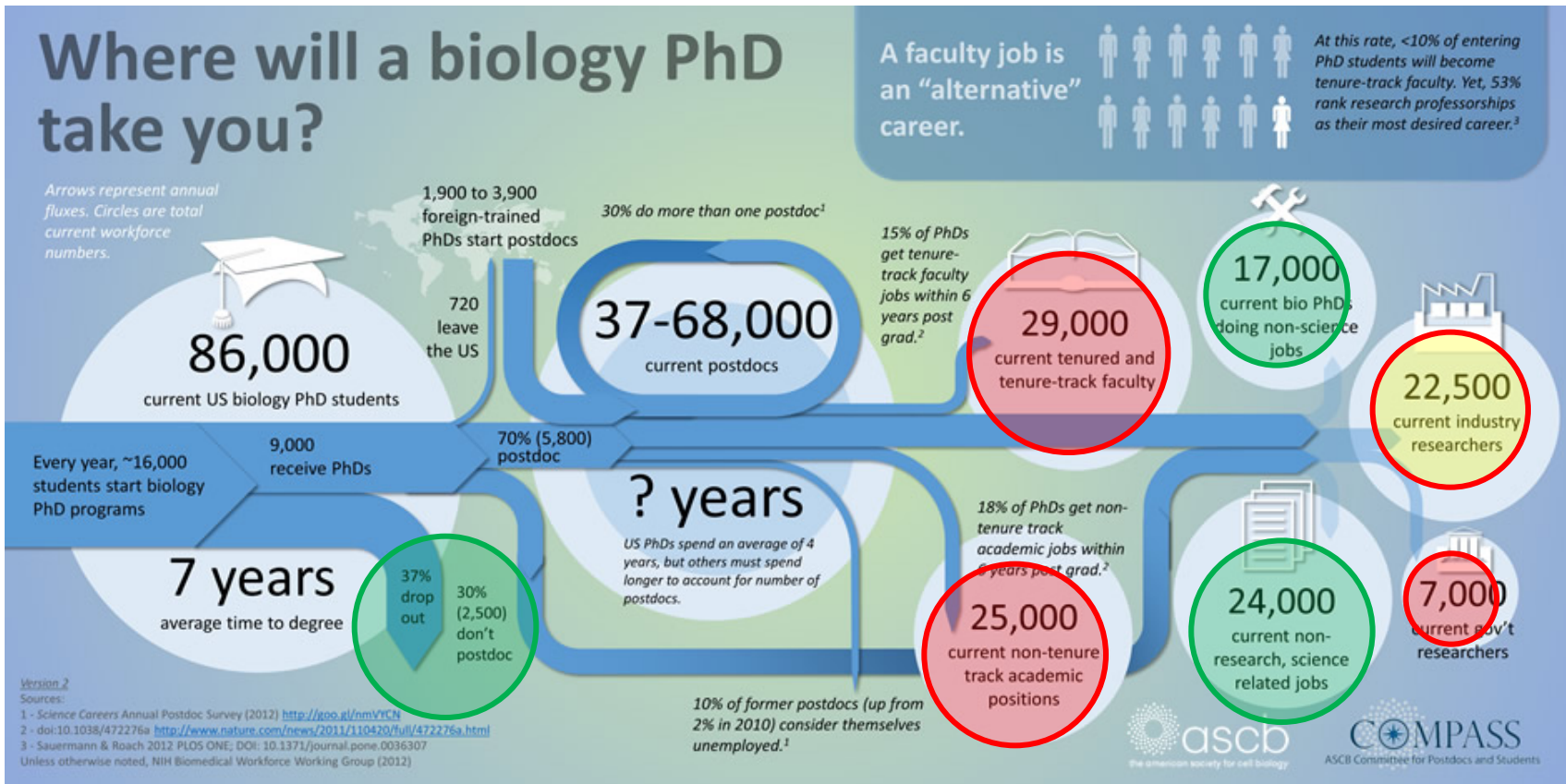


Everybody is responsible for what he/she can influence!

*Duties:* initiate, plan, support, care, execute, document, control, check, report, assess, redirect, finish, exam, publish, communicate, review, recommend, share

# Mentors and job opportunities

e.g. biology



# Accountabilities (not shared respons., after actions)

PSI

**DIR:** research goals, evaluation (Foko, Audits), communication to outside, tech transfer, organization safety & infrastructures, equipment, guidelines, information tools, etc.

**HR:** personnel contracts, conflicts, salaries, education programs, etc.

**LOG:** facilities, IT, safety, room infrastructures, cleaning, materials, etc.

Pr

**Research topic:** relevance, part of scientific community, facilitate interactions, etc.

**Research quality:** check data interpretation, publication practice, authorship check, **promotion**.

PI

**Project management:** hiring and leading personnel, instrumentation, room allocation, finances, method development and validation, raw data storage means, data reduction processes, scientific writing & authorship, group meetings, avoiding conflicts, reporting, safety trainings, etc.

Me

**Mentor:** develop and support student, protect & coach him/her, set rules, is a role model

S

**Research work:** execute experiments, include experimental controls, observe critically, participate in meetings, education, instruction briefing & training courses; exchange with scientific community (report, conferences), assure correct raw data storage, data processing & presentation, participate in scientific writing and Tech transfer, etc.



## Integrität in der Forschung am PSI

Richtlinien für gute wissenschaftliche Praxis



## Research integrity at PSI

Guidelines for good scientific practice

### Dissertation at the Paul Scherrer Institute – a Guideline

#### Relevance of a PhD thesis

A dissertation is an original piece of scientific work, containing results and insights that have never been obtained before. In this sense, carrying out a PhD thesis is an exciting endeavor and a unique period of your life. While continuing your scientific education, you are expected to prove your ability for independent scientific work, and generate your own novel results. Of course, great science is carried out in teams in which your work is embedded. Take this chance and consider the years of your thesis as a challenge, in which motivation, perseverance and dedicated work will bring you to the forefront of science, and will expand the boundaries of scientific knowledge by the results and insights of your doctoral dissertation.

#### Guidance

Your PhD work is guided by a scientist and mentor at PSI; other persons may be involved depending on the project. The work is supervised by your thesis advisor, who is a professor at the university where you are inscribed as a PhD student, and may be internal or external to PSI. This constellation has been made known to you when you are interviewed for the PhD position. At a later stage, additional external co-referee(s) will be appointed for judging your thesis and taking part in the final exam.

#### Guidelines

- **Research plan**  
You are expected to submit a research plan at the academic institution where you are inscribed, typically within 6 months after definite admission. A skeleton for this plan has often been formulated within the framework project of your thesis. You will supplement this draft based on your reading and experience during the first few months, and will discuss it in detail with your advisors prior to submission. All involved persons are aware that progress in science is based on sometimes unexpected discoveries, on successes and failures, and that it may become necessary to modify the plan in the course of the thesis.
- **Experimental work**  
PSI provides cutting edge and unique experimental facilities, and strives for highest standards of safety and professionalism. Your direct advisor or mentor will introduce you to the experimental techniques as required. If you are in need of additional instructions, in particular with respect to safety, do not hesitate to ask – members of staff will be glad to assist you.
- **Reporting**  
We are keeping complete and transparent records of our experimental results for future reference. Periodically, the progress achieved, difficulties encountered, and (preliminary) results obtained should be analyzed and documented in intermediate reports, which will form the basis for an in-depth discussion with your advisors. There are various ways in which this can be achieved, and you should agree upon the form and sequence of these reports with your advisors.

## A Guideline

- Relevance: unique period in *your* life, motivation to do the best
- **PSI mentor** and **professor at university**; additional co-referents later
- Research plan is required: **fix** after few months, **modify** upon experiences
- Experimental work: introductions, safety, ask for additional instruments
- Reporting: secure raw data, intermediate reports, discuss findings
- Ethical guidelines: integrity very important, consult guidelines *yourself*
- Publication: introduction **by advisors**, submitted before thesis
- Duration: 3-4 y, ambitious, scheduled by **supervisor**
- Writing the thesis: drafts to **advisor**, respect relevant standards
- Exams: PSI-seminar, show your findings and wider field of research
- After the thesis: records of raw data, additional papers, **ownership PSI**

The leader of a piece of research, or a research project (the Research Leader) is the responsible person (also called the principle Investigator, **PI**) who is in charge of defining and achieving research goals. He or she ensures that all persons involved are aware of these guidelines and committed to their implementation and is supported by the employer therefore.

1. Definitions: scientific community, **research leader**
2. **Research planning**
  - 2.1 Research planning: objective, restriction, reflection, **duties of research leaders**, **supervision**, *conflict of interest*, collaboration
  - 2.2 Executing: data collecting, archiving, generating results
  - 2.3 Publication: ownership, scientific writing, *authorship*, references
3. **Peer reviewing**: conflict of interest
4. **Procedure** in case of **alleged violation of misconduct** (separate document)

The **PI** submits a research plan for internal and/or external assessment, if requested. In each case the responsibilities, accountabilities and financing have to be defined prior to the start of research. The **PI** takes all reasonable efforts to ensure that sufficient resources are provided to be able to successfully carry out an approved research project.

The **PSI Directorate** takes all reasonable measure that young scientists at all levels are appropriately supported. The doctoral supervisor and adviser are responsible that a written research plan for a PhD thesis is available in due time, according to the specific regulations of the corresponding academic institution, and that the progress of the project is regularly assessed.

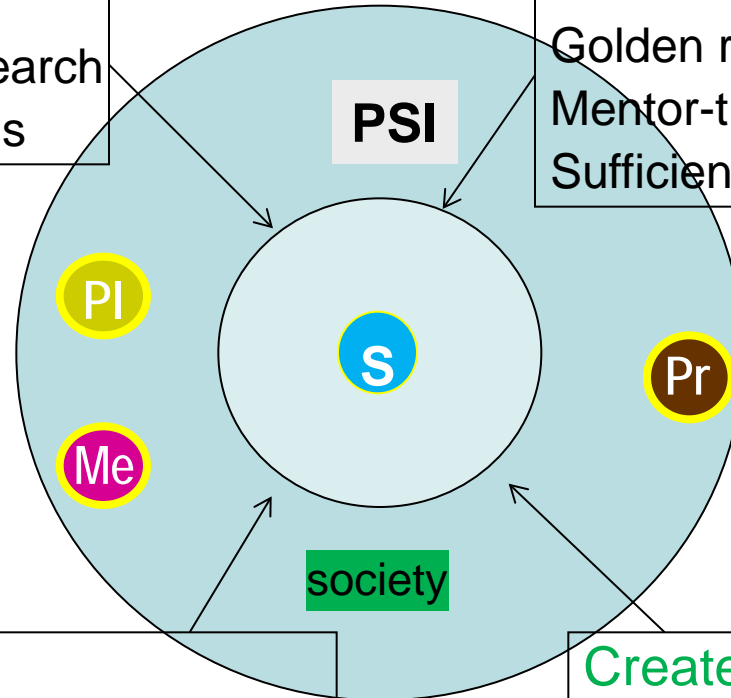
## Ethical principles

### Autonomy

Freedom of research  
Respect opinions

### Fairness

Golden rule: fair distribution pos./neg.  
Mentor-trainee relationship  
Sufficient resources, time, supports



### Avoid damage

to colleagues: promote their work  
to scientific community: avoid fraud  
to employer and employees: safety

### Create benefits

to society: innovation, etc.  
to others players: create win-win  
to yourself: realize your career

*Honesty, openness, self-criticism, reliability and fairness are the basis for credibility in science. researcher at PSI are committed to these **values** and to the guidelines which derive from them.*  
*Source: PSI Guidelines Research Integrity, inner frontpage*

**Interactions influenced by differences in:**  
character, openness, authenticity, loyalty  
temperament, mood, empathy, reliabilities  
values, (dis)abilities, skills, perception  
experience, personal & societal background



# Mentor's issues: from HR perspectives

- Hiring process: advertisement, submission, internal communication
- Contracts (with institutions aboard): admission rules, legal issues, salary
- Start (Enter PSI): first days, frictions, problems
- Regulations & compliance: information flow, control perception, training
- Communication: routes, recipients, e-mail – oral – written, frequency
- Responsibilities: mentors in the departments, at universities, training & safety
- Accountabilities: financial issues, materials, data ownership,
- Contracts: duration, prolongation, salary,
- Not publishable results: blaming, complaining, redirection, re-organisation
- Abortion of thesis work: what follows?
- Personal conflicts: with mentor, professor, other team members, different opinions
- Conflict of interest: authorship issues, industrial collaboration, independency
- Leaving PSI: forgotten duties, recommendation letters, later publication (mention PSI)
- Occupation at PSI (evaluation procedure)
- Scientific fraud: procedure of alleged violation
- Statistics: numbers & experiences
- Influences of postdocs, senior scientist, assistant professor, associate & full professor

Orally:  
practical  
experiences

# Group discussion

50 min, oral feedback by a speaker

1. Select the issue(s) to be discussed.  
Specify according presentation.
2. What is wrong? Analyze it.
3. How can situation be improved? Suggestions