Managing Your Masters

One of the most challenging relationships that we are required to manage in our professional life is that with our “boss” - a term which may include superior officer, senior colleague, supervisor or leader. At a one-on-one level, how could a better understanding of our boss’ drivers improve our interaction? How could modifying our personal style to better match that of our boss improve our communication? This presentation presents some ideas and some relevant examples to stimulate thinking about how, in practice, we could improve that relationship. At a macro level, how can universities manage the demands that their masters (especially Government) place upon them? How might universities balance the tension between the conflicting expectations of intellectual learning, vocational teaching and quality research? How might the lessons of the micro relationship be applied to the macro relationship? This presentation explores the purpose of universities and the pressures involved with achieving that purpose today.

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