

PhD Vlog Week 2: Jack Donaghy Transcript

TIME	SPEAKER	AUDIO
00:00:03	Jack Donaghy	Hey folks. So it's Wednesday today and today is the day I get my key for my office! So I'm going to head into Uni now and check it out and yeah, I'll bring you along and show you around, give you a tour.
00:00:33		Hey folks. Okay so what you were supposed to see there was a time lapse of me going from the subway station to my office. It's actually now Saturday. I didn't get a chance to get much footage while I was in the office this week unfortunately - kind of busy and also I don't want to start bugging my office mates, you know, with this stuff. So what I was going to do was I was going to bring you in this morning when hopefully they wouldn't be in but unfortunately
00:01:03		even though I've got a key for the front door so I should be able to get in, there's actually another door inside with a code on it and I don't know the code! So that is something I need to figure out this week. So unfortunately you're not going to see my office this week but that's okay because it's, you know, we've still got to put our personal touches on it so I'll bring you guys along to the office next week and you can see it once we've got all our posters up and all our plants in and, you know, all that so it will be much
00:01:33		better so I think you'll like that more. So while you're looking forward to that, let me just talk you through what I've been doing this week. So I went along and got my office key on Wednesday and that was great and the first thing I did when I went along and got my office key - after I did that, I brought along... You know that pile of books that I showed you last week? Took all them along and stuck them in the office because one thing that I'm planning on doing during my
00:02:03		PHD or at least kind of trying for the next little period is to try and get a kind of space separation, you know, I'm kind of... For so many

		years, you know, this desk behind me and the computer has been where I do Uni work but also where I kind of do, you know, just hang out and, you know, look at cat pictures and stuff! So what I'm trying is trying to get a bit of a separation going so that I've got a space for working
00:02:33		and a space for doing kind of home stuff - I think that'll be good because, you know, trying to work here is no good because there's so many distractions, you know, I've got the, you know, computer stuff, I've got Xbox and Nintendo Wii - all that stuff. So yeah, so what I've got is I've got my books in the office and I'm going to trial this separate kind of work/life balance some people call it I think, so I'm going to see how that goes, I think that's going to be real good. What
00:03:03		else is going on? I've also... The main thing I've been doing this week is kind of going through my email because suddenly I get lots of email. I don't know if I always got lots of email and I just ignored it or if I'm just, you know, paying more attention now but there's so much email and it's all good because suddenly I'm getting stuff about events that are on that are so interesting that I didn't even know they were on before. So there are urban studies workshops going on. So the main thing I've been doing is kind of scheduling and kind of
00:03:33		working, you know, planning out exactly what I've got to do. So I've got my schedule together for next week. So the first thing I'm doing is heading along to the urban studies workshop - there's a workshop on next week about mobile health - and, you know, that's... what's that got to do with housing, right? Probably not very much but I also happen to be quite interested in all this, you know, apps for health stuff. So heading along there, seeing kind of what the evidence base is, it's going to be really interesting - find out if the apps that I use are
00:04:03		just, you know, any... doing me any good. What else is on? There's an ethics workshop that I've got to go to because we think there's probably

		going to be some ethical questions in my research which there might be some hurdles there which we've got to kind of figure out exactly how we can go about doing this in a way that's respectful and ethical and make sure that we do everything properly. So I'm going to be heading along to the ethics workshop and, you know, hopefully get some pointers there on how to navigate
00:04:33		the ethics procedure and how to do ethical research properly and what's the other thing that's on next week? There's a lecture... also a lecture on is it Friday? There's another lecture on next week by a professor from Ohio which I'm going to check out as well. So that is next week and I've also been kind of putting together, you know, what actually do I need to read? You know, because I've got this whole pile of books with me or sitting in my office but the thing is, you can't just
00:05:03		you know, have a big pile of books and say, "Got to read all that," because that's just, you know, that's such a big task that it's very easy to procrastinate from doing such a big task. So what I've been doing is I've been kind of identifying themes and things which I need to work on and things which are going to be important, you know, in the next three years – what do I need to do? So I've been figuring out which books I need to read and kind of been breaking them up into kind of manageable chunks. So instead of even saying, you know, I'm not
00:05:33		going to say, "I've got to read all these books," and I'm not even going to say, "I've got to read this one book." I'm kind of splitting it up into chapters and saying, "Right, I need to..." you know, ideally I read every chapter of every book eventually but I'm saying, you know, "I've got to read these chapters," and I think that's been going really well, you know, I got an app and instead of just having stuff in my head to do, I've been getting it all into this app and then, you know, whenever I've read one chapter of a book, I can then say, "What's my next task?" check out the app and I've got a whole list of

		stuff to do.
00:06:03		So that's really good. So I'm not short of things to do – I've been keeping busy so that's great. Oh and also this week I've been doing so much but this almost feels like it was like a month ago but on Monday this week, we went to a lecture organised by urban studies, a kind of lecture series on the city and kind of inequality – Inequality In The City it was called – and it was really interesting and the most interesting thing about it I thought was the first lecture was
00:06:33		a kind of ethnographic look at a housing estate and then the second lecture was a kind of statistical look at austerity and it was so interesting how these two different approaches to austerity and inequality, you know, they kind of told the same story but in very different ways and I think it is a really good example of how a kind of mixed method approach can really show you the whole story. So that was, you know, great. I thought that was really
00:07:03		worth going to. Yeah, so that's what I've been up to this week and I've talked a little bit about what I'm doing next week. One other thing I've got to do is have another supervisor meeting because I've still not met with Nigel – I already met with Moira – but Nigel's been really busy this week so I've not been able to meet with him yet. Also got to meet with Mike who we're collaborating with so we're going to organise that, I've sent off a few emails, going to get something together. Definitely going to meet with Nigel this week so that'll be good, make sure we're all on the same page. It's great because
00:07:33		I no longer have to trudge all the way into Uni just for an advisor meeting, you know, it's great because they're just on the floor above me and I'm there anyway so that is really useful. Yeah, so that's what I've been up to this week. Next week I'll bring you guys along, you can check out my office, you can see what posters I put on the wall – I've not decided yet what I'm going to put on. It's either going to be Twin Peaks or maybe something like the X-Files. Maybe, you

		know, the poster that Mulder has in his office
00:08:03		that says, "I Want To Believe?" I'm quite tempted to get that. Hmm anyway, tune in next week to find out what I do get, okay? So yeah, I'll see you next time. Catch you later!

END OF TRANSCRIPT