

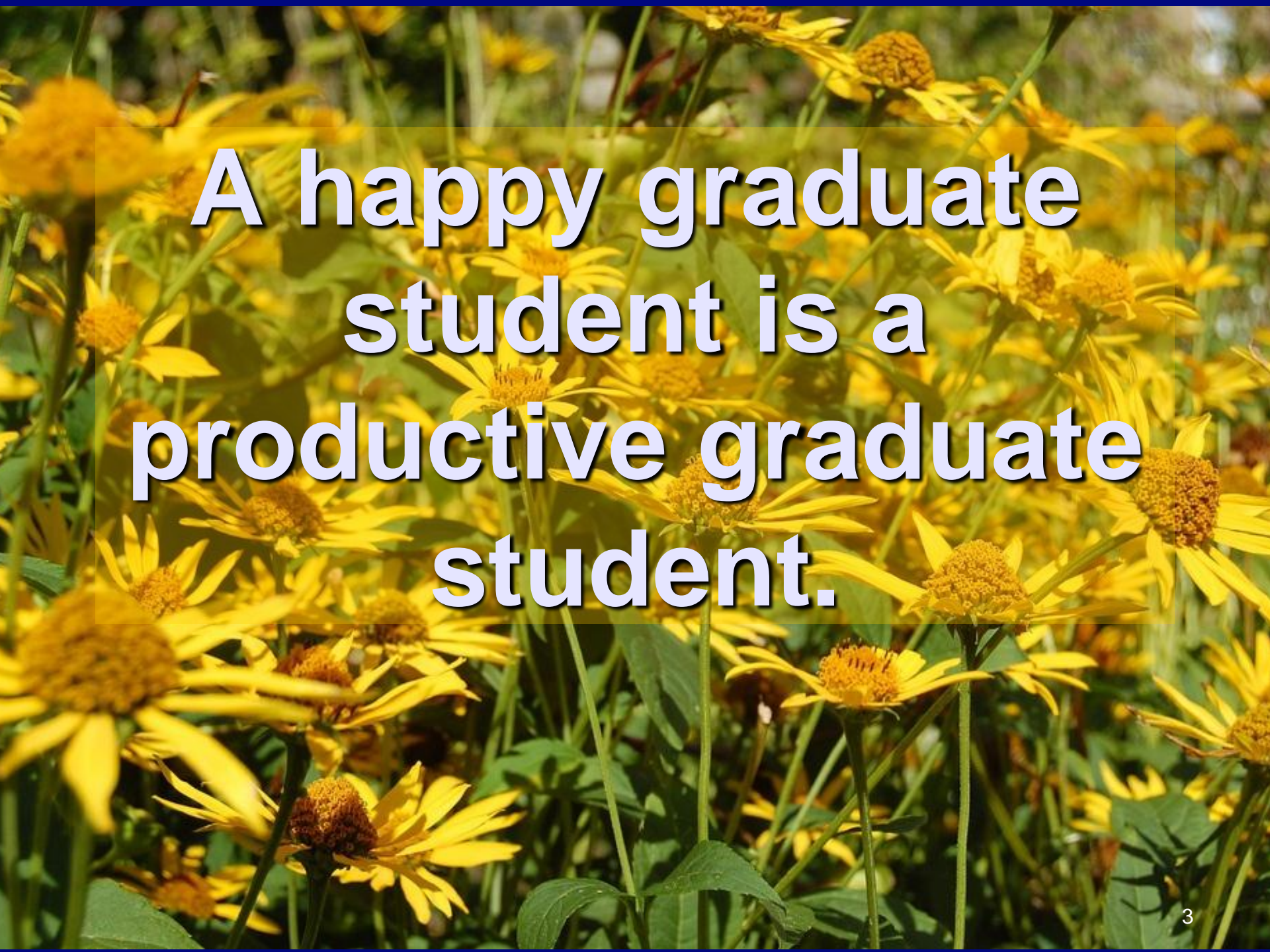
# **Fostering a Creative Work Environment for your Graduate Students**

Sandra Yuter

North Carolina State University

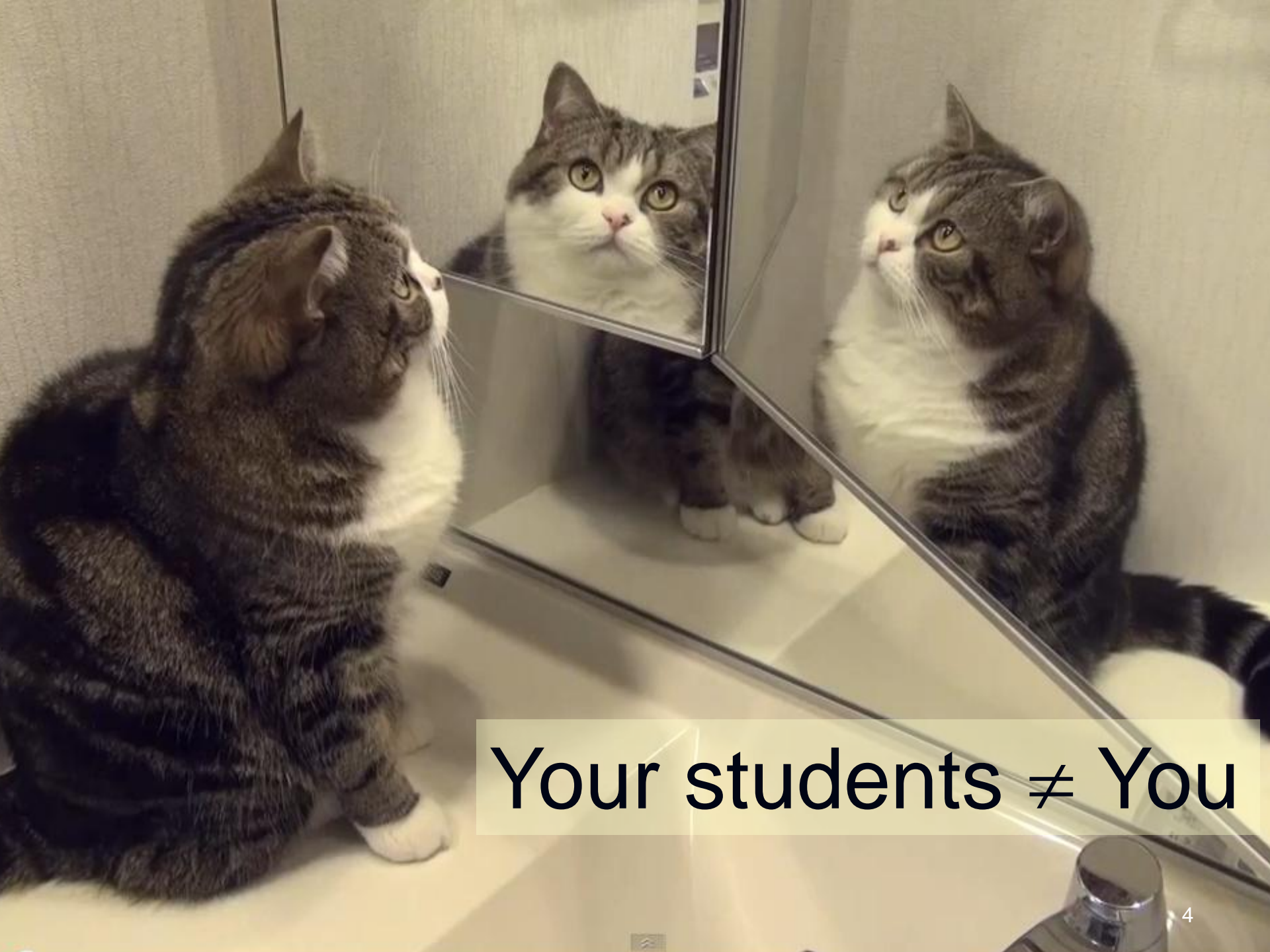
# Types of Resources

- [Management Books] Rothman and Derby, Behind Closed Doors: Secrets of Great Management; Seidman, How: Why How We Do Anything Means Everything; Brooks, The Mythical Man Month
- [How the Brain Works] Hunt, Pragmatic Thinking and Learning: Refactor your Wetware
- [Real Examples of Creative Environments] Kelly and Littman, The Art of Innovation: Lessons in Creativity from IDEO, American's Leading Design Firm
- [Student-centric] Hunt, Your Research Project: How to Manage It

A close-up, slightly blurred photograph of a field of yellow daisies. The flowers have bright yellow petals and dark brown centers. The background is a soft-focus mix of more flowers and green foliage.

**A happy graduate  
student is a  
productive graduate  
student.**





Your students  $\neq$  You





**All graduate students are  
different.**





**Informal Interaction**

Yes, you could definitely do it faster.  
But that is not the point. Let them  
mess up and learn from it.

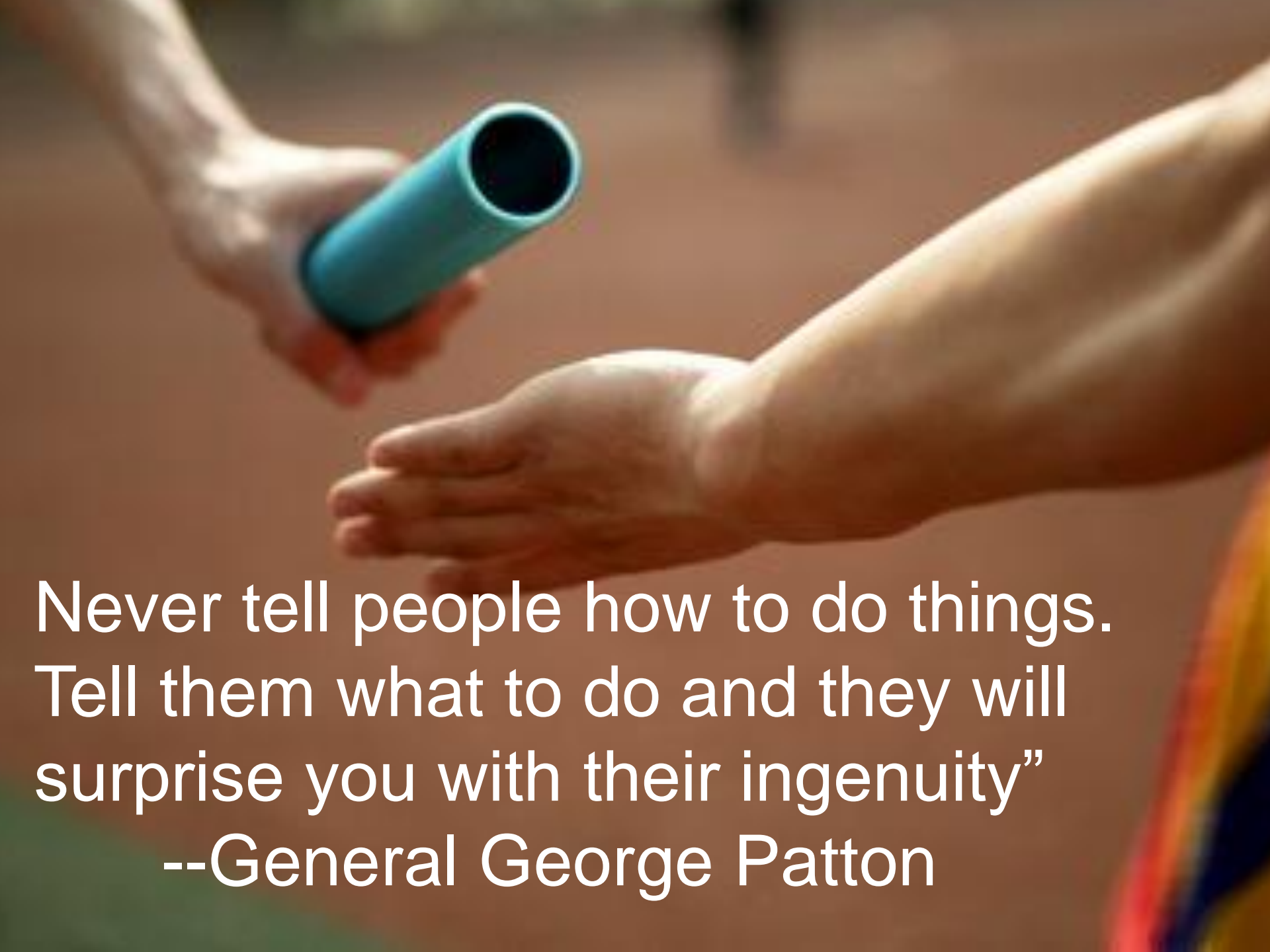
**Patience**



# TEAMWORK

Together Each Achieves More





Never tell people how to do things.  
Tell them what to do and they will  
surprise you with their ingenuity”

--General George Patton



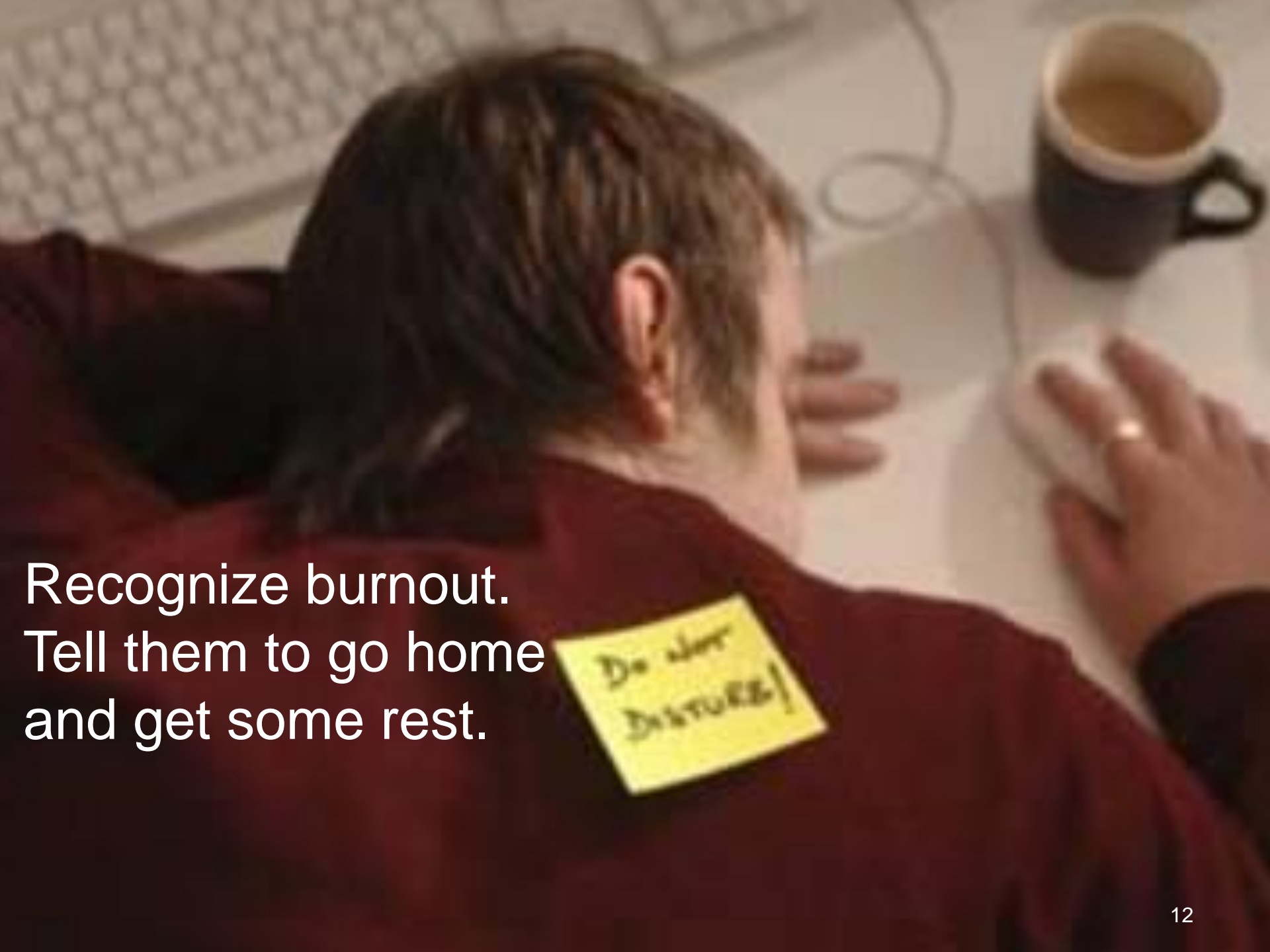
Accept that  
there will be  
times when  
your  
students  
hate you.



# Your students as a resource:

- different points of view
- fresh insights
- pinch hitting





Recognize burnout.  
Tell them to go home  
and get some rest.



A Bad Graduate Student is Worse  
than No Graduate Student



Model good:

Integrity

Work habits

Presentation skills

Writing

Dealing with others



If you are successful, one day  
your grad students will be your  
colleagues.

# My Mentoring Goals

To train students who will be strong contributors to the field.

To train students to question authority and to be skeptical.

To provide students with a strong foundation for life-long learning.

To empower students to figure out what they want to do and to be.