

The University of Reading



Enterprise Architecture and Academia

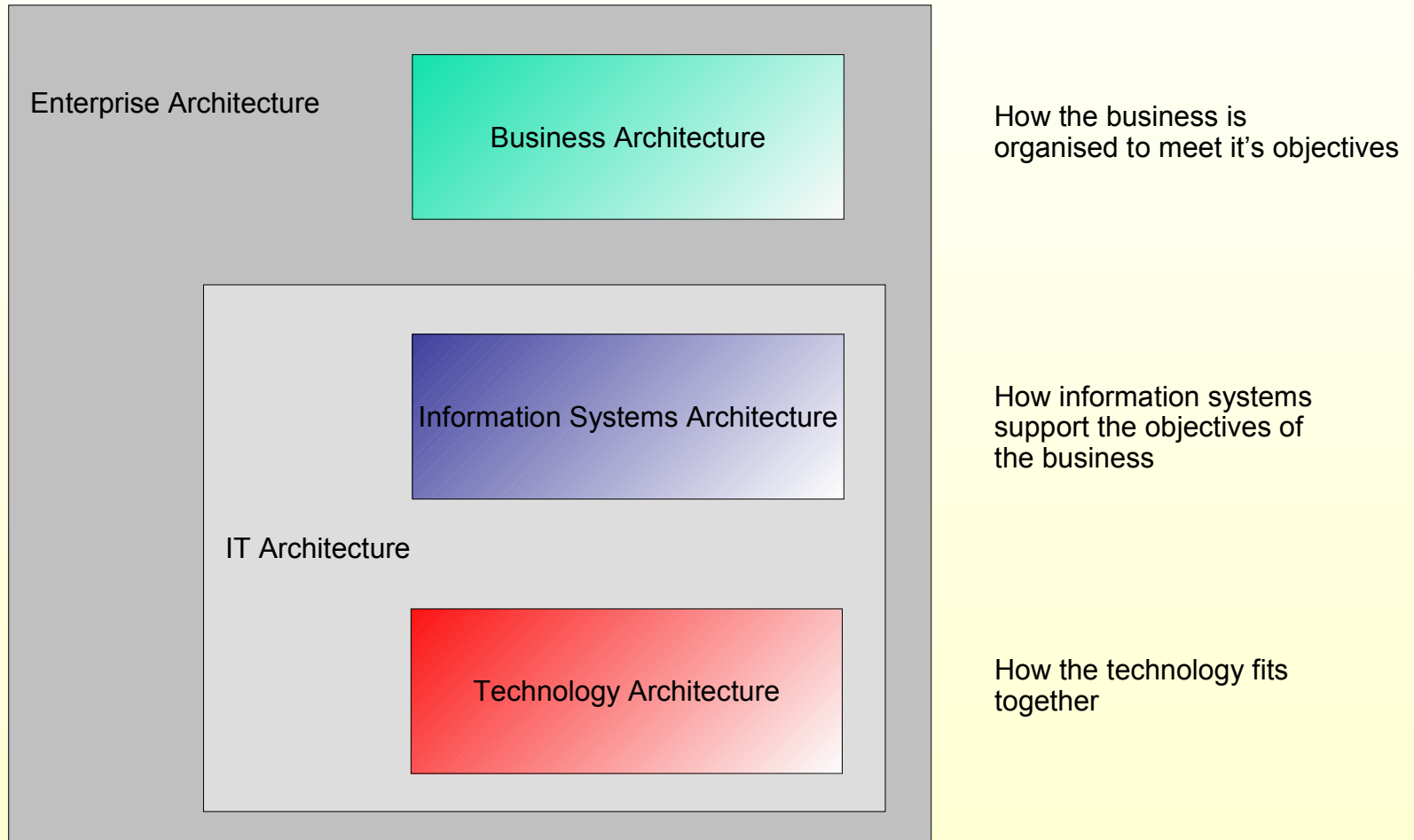
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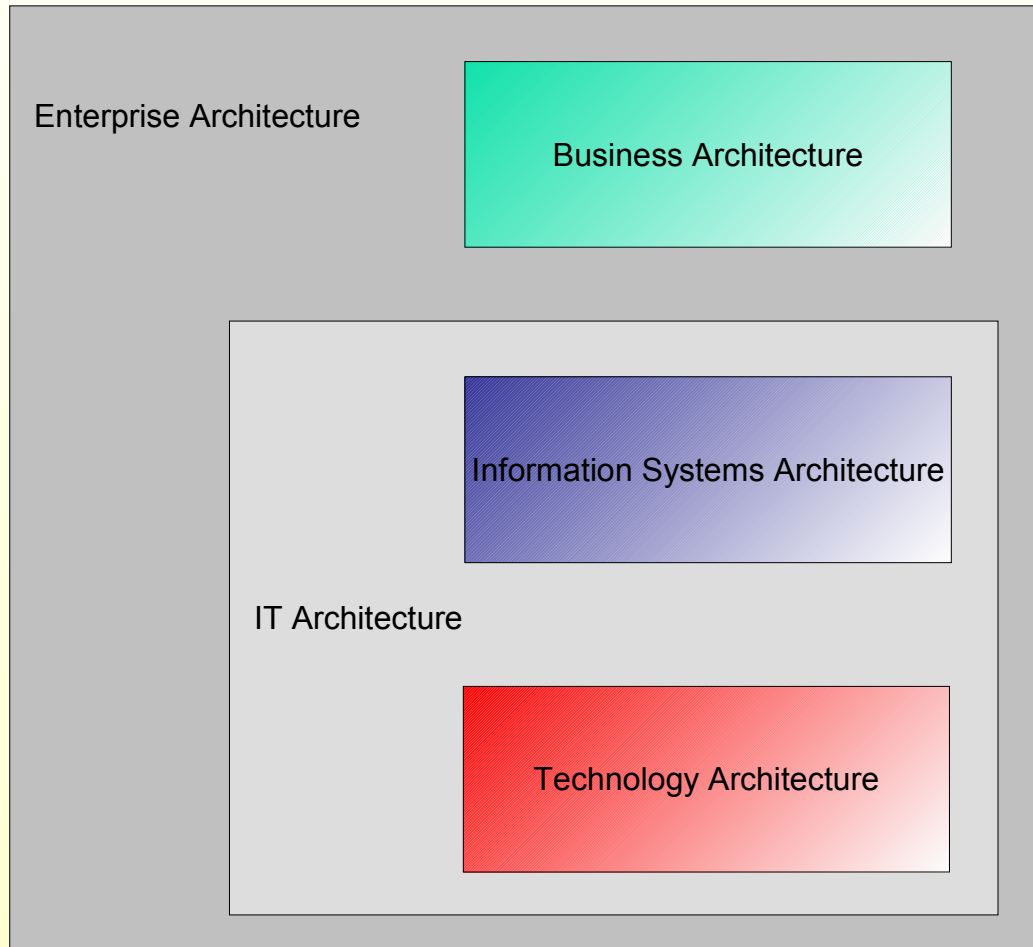


Terminology Baseline





Scoping



- We are looking for skilled Enterprise IT Architects
 - who are capable of **leading** major Enterprise IT Architecture projects
- Together with domain IT Architects
 - Who are able to **participate** as members of the Architecture team



Problem Statement

- Growing recognition that Enterprise Architecture is important
 - Business benefits
 - Regulatory environment
- Rapidly growing demand for all types of IT Architect
- Protracted process for development of IT Architects
- There is a shortage of top class Enterprise Architects
 - Great for architects
 - Not so great for business
- We are developing measures
 - Now we need to deliver the IT Architects



Long Term Vision

- Enterprise Architecture is a recognized profession in its own right
 - Recognized body of knowledge
 - Recognized professional qualification based on knowledge, experience and proven competence
 - Recognized career development path



How other professions operate

- Acquire the knowledge
 - Licensed undergraduate university courses built around a standard body of knowledge
 - Often involving periods of practical experience under supervision
 - Specialised postgraduate courses
- Gain the experience
 - Structured on-the-job training to demonstrate expertise and acquire experience (internships)
- Accreditation
 - Some form of examination to achieve acceptance into the profession
- Examples
 - (Building) architects
 - Law
 - Medicine
 - Accountancy
- Escape Routes
 - Recognized routes for those who are not able to “stay the course”
 - Valuable roles as supporting team members



IT Architect Certification

- Launched by The Open Group in mid 2005
- Based on knowledge, experience and competence
- Certification based on peer review
 - More than 1700 architects have achieved certification in first year of operation
 - Supported by major companies
 - Program already has industry acceptance and critical mass



ITAC – What is the Problem?

- There is no recognized career development path
 - The majority of IT architects “drift” into that field after long IT experience
- The involvement of academia is currently unstructured
 - Too many universities still churning out computer scientists who lack the relevant skills required by 21st century employers
 - Some universities are offering content relevant to IT Architecture
 - No commonly agreed body of knowledge or syllabus
 - In general, these courses are well kept secrets



TOGAF Skills Framework

- Developed by Architecting-the-Enterprise and contributed to the The Open Group Architecture Forum, defines:
 - Different types of architecture roles
 - Types of skills required for each of these roles
 - Level of capability required in each skills area

- The skills profile identifies the Enterprise Architect as “Architecture Manager”
 - Represents the baseline requirements for IT Architect Certification

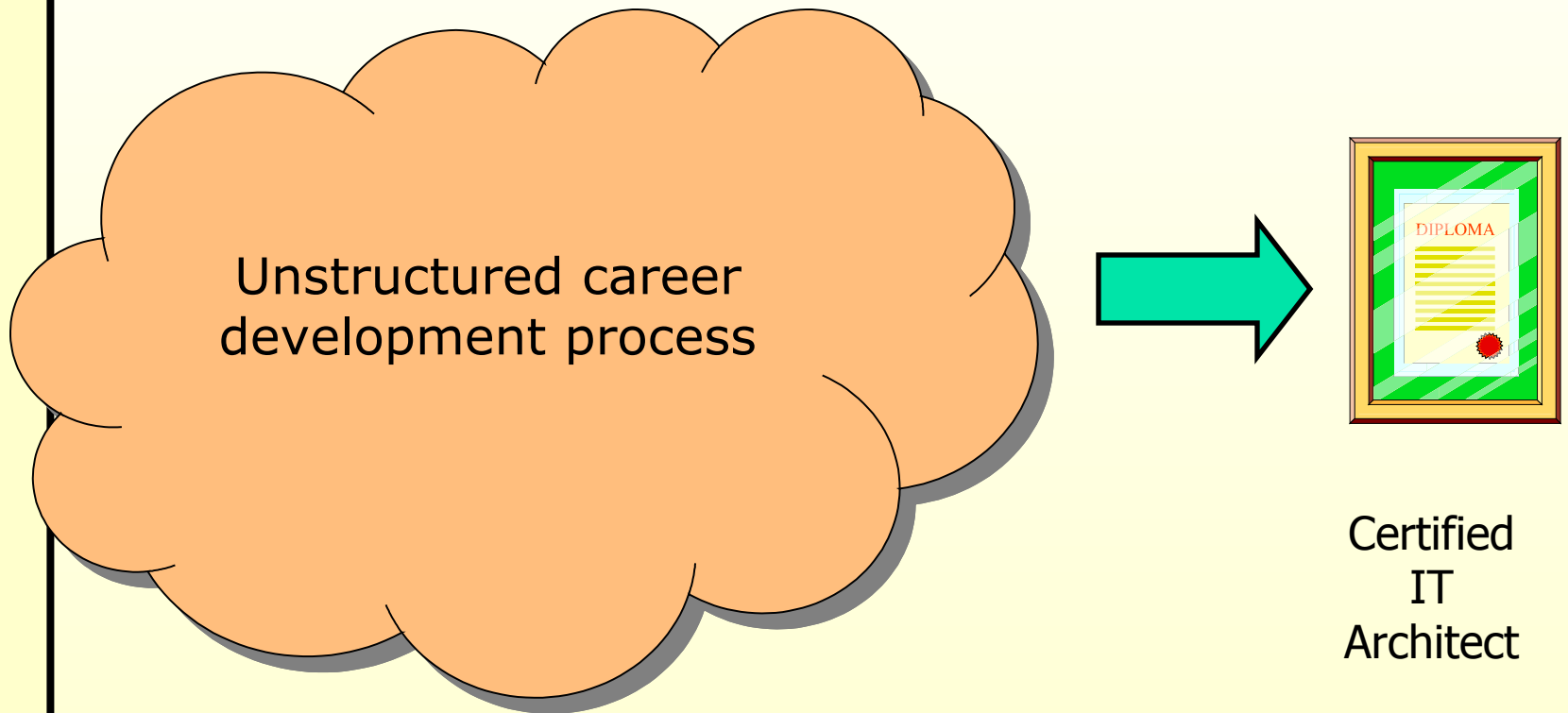


Enterprise Architect skills

- Enterprise Architect skills go well beyond the world of IT and include
 - Business
 - Legal
 - Management
 - Behavior

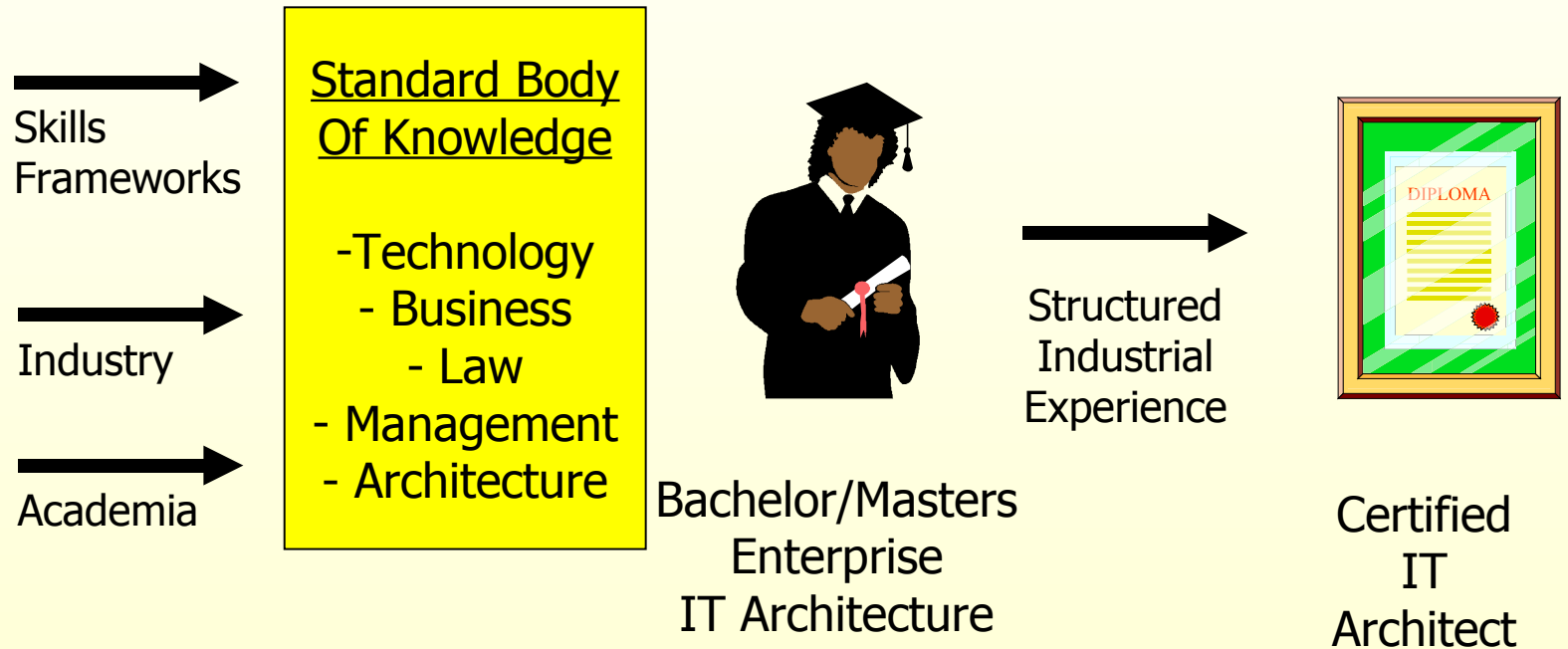


Current Development of an Enterprise Architect





Possible Future Professional Development Path for an IT Architect





The Academic Challenge

- Many academic institutions transitioning from pure Computer Science to include more Business and Enterprise Architecture content
 - How do we converge these into the long term vision of Enterprise IT Architecture as a profession?
 - How do we promote the value of these courses to potential students?
 - How do we build the partnership between industry and academia to build the structured career development path for Enterprise IT Architects



Barriers

- We don't yet have an agreed body of knowledge
- Creating a new degree course has significant lead time (especially undergraduate degrees)
 - Design course and get approval (1-2 years)
 - Promote to potential students (1-2 years)
 - First course (3-4 years)
- Lead time from concept to first graduate is between 5 and 8 years
- Enterprise Architecture is likely to take longer because of the need to involve multiple "schools" to cover the complete syllabus



Proposed Work Plan

- Build relationships with academia
 - Institutions already offering or wishing to offer curricula with Enterprise Architecture content
 - Academic Partnership with Association of Open Group Enterprise Architects

- Build relationships with industry
 - Organisations wishing to assist in the development of the Enterprise IT Architecture career development path



Long-term goal [10 years]

- Agree standard body of knowledge for academic EA courses
- Establish body/bodies to accredit courses
 - Worldwide recognition
 - Industry acceptance



Medium-term goal [2 years]

- Define minimum level of Enterprise Architecture content for course to be of value to industry
- Establish interim mechanism for recognition of courses



Short Term [2007]

- Establish showcase to promote existing courses that claim to have Enterprise Architecture content
- Establish standard TOGAF courseware for academic use under academic license
- Establish register of other Enterprise Architecture courseware available for academic use
 - Provided by academia
 - Provided by industry



Mode of Operation

- Activities will operate within the framework of the Association of Open Group Enterprise Architects

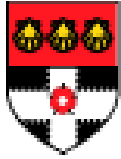
- The majority of work to be accomplished virtually
 - Web
 - E-Mail
 - Discussion Forums
 - Teleconferences



Academic Participation

- Academic Institutions need to become Academic Partners with the Association of Open Group Enterprise Architects
 - No cost
 - Lightweight agreement with few obligations

- An academic partner must be an accredited establishment of higher education, such as a college or university, that helps prepare students (at undergraduate or postgraduate level) for careers in Enterprise Architecture and/or embark on advanced research projects in the field of Enterprise Architecture.



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