Discussion Material for Newly Accepted PhD students and their Supervisors

Name:................................................

The purpose with this material is to identify areas where the expectations of the PhD student and the supervisor on PhD studies differ. It is a questionnaire that is done separately and with the focus on supervisor PhD student relationship. Afterwards the answers are compared and form the base for discussions about the differences and the similarities. The different expectations will also be discussed.

Instruction

Circle the answer that fits best with HOW YOU WANT IT TO BE. Answers 1 and 5 represent the extremes of the scale. Circle 3 if both alternatives are equally important.

General

The PhD is mainly seen as an:

1 2 3 4 5
Employment
education

The aim of a PhD is:

1 2 3 4 5
To write a thesis
to become a competent researcher

State some other important goals with PhD education:

The supervisor

What form of supervision is one supposed to have mainly?

1 2 3 4 5
Spontaneous talks booked appointments
**How often will some type of supervision/discussion take place?**

- Daily
- every week
- every second week
- every month
- every 6\textsuperscript{th} month

**Who should be supervising?**

- One supervisor
- one supervisor together with one or more co supervisor

**Who should take the initiative for planning the supervisor/ PhD student discussions?**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Supervisor</td>
<td>PhD student</td>
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**How quickly is the supervisor expected to read the manuscript and respond?**

- 1 day
- 2 days
- 3 days
- 1 week
- 2 weeks
- 1 month

**Who is responsible for the Individual Study Plan?**

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**Research is to be done:**

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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>According to a schedule with strict deadlines</td>
<td>free from schedules and deadlines</td>
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**Who defines any possible deadlines?**

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**Research**

**Who defines the original research?**

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**Who is the driving force in the research project (attending meetings making contacts etc)?**

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</table>
Who is responsible for solving scientific problems?

1 2 3 4 5
Supervisor PhD student

Who solves practical problems (equipment, analysis, logistics etc.)?

1 2 3 4 5
Supervisor PhD student

Thesis

Who decides the contents of the Thesis?

1 2 3 4 5
Supervisor PhD student

The PhD student can decide the type of thesis (monograph or compilation)?

1 2 3 4 5
To a low extent to a high extent

The PhD student can decide the length of thesis (number of papers and chapters)?

1 2 3 4 5
To a low extent to a high extent

How is the research work supposed to be done?

1 2 3 4 5
Alone together with others

Publicizing/property rights etc

Who has the right to the research results of the PhD student?

1 2 3 4 5
instit./Univ supervisor PhD student

Who has the right to publish the research results of the PhD?

1 2 3 4 5
Supervisor PhD student
Publicizing of the PhD student material is supposed to be done:

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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Together with the supervisor and other colleagues</td>
<td>by the PhD student him/her self</td>
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Ethical questions affect the research:

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<td>To a low extent</td>
<td>to a high extent</td>
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Financing

Who applies for means for running project costs (materials, analysis etc)?

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<td>Supervisor/project leader</td>
<td>PhD student</td>
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Who applies for means to travel, to conferences and workshops etc?

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Workplace

Access to computer phone fax etc.:

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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Should be at the workplace</td>
<td>PhD student should fix themselves</td>
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The work can temporary be placed on other location (different lab, field studies different city etc)

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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Agree</td>
<td>do not agree</td>
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Working hours and vacation

Work hours:

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<td>Strict working hours</td>
<td>free working hours</td>
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Vacation:

1 2 3 4 5
strict vacation time (mainly July)
free vacation time

One should work more than usual working time:

1 2 3 4 5
Right
wrong

Courses

Who decides what courses the PhD student is to take?

1 2 3 4 5
Supervisor
PhD student

Courses are to be chosen:

1 2 3 4 5
In a narrow research area
over a wide field

Teaching

The PhD student is to teach:

1 2 3 4 5
As little as possible
as much as possible

The content of the teaching should be:

1 2 3 4 5
In one’s research field
over a wide field

Time spent on different areas

Draw three curves in the diagram below to state how the activity in the three areas research, theory (courses) and teaching should be for the different years as a PhD student:
Use different symbols for the three curves

**Extras**

*Taking part in the department/institution’s common scientific work (seminars/meetings etc) is:*

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*Mingling with other PhD students and researchers at the department/institution is:*

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*Taking part in the common social activities in the department/institution (coffee breaks, discussions, parties etc) is:*

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