

Expectations in Research Supervision

This questionnaire is designed to facilitate discussion of expectations held by postgraduate research students and supervisors. The questions cover many of the issues that arise during supervision of a research degree.

It is recommended that the form be completed independently by supervisor and student and that the responses be the topic of discussion at a supervision meeting. The major objective of this process is seen to be in assisting the student and supervisor to establish an effective working relationship for the duration of the research degree.

Adapted by Mike Lawson, Flinders University, from a questionnaire developed by M. Kiley and K. Cadman, Advisory Centre for University Education, The University of Adelaide, from work by I. Moses, Centre for Learning and Teaching, University of Technology, Sydney.

A. Whose responsibility is it?

Indicate your view of issues in the first table by circling a point on the line in the middle column. Make any comments or clarifications in the right hand column.

Who should have responsibility for:							Comments
1.	Selection of the students' research topic	1	2	3	4	5	
		Supervisor			Student		
2.	Establishing the theoretical framework for the thesis research	1	2	3	4	5	
		Supervisor			Student		
3.	Identifying a program of background reading or study for the student	1	2	3	4	5	
		Supervisor			Student		
4.	Developing a schedule for completion of tasks that the student will undertake during the degree	1	2	3	4	5	
		Supervisor			Student		
5.	Organising regular meetings between student and supervisor	1	2	3	4	5	
		Supervisor			Student		
6.	Making the student aware of facilities and resources in the department and university	1	2	3	4	5	
		Supervisor			Student		
7.	Preparing the student for public presentations of research ideas or results	1	2	3	4	5	
		Supervisor			Student		

		Supervisor			Student	
8.	Providing resources that will support the student's research	1	2	3	4	5
		Supervisor			Student	
9.	Developing a network of fellow students or staff for the student	1	2	3	4	5
		Supervisor			Student	
10	Ensuring that the student's program is on track and on schedule	1	2	3	4	5
		Supervisor			Student	
11.	Providing emotional support and encouragement to the student	1	2	3	4	5
		Supervisor			Student	
12.	Maintaining an effective working relationship between supervisor and student	1	2	3	4	5
		Supervisor			Student	
13.	Ensuring that the thesis will be of an acceptable standard when examined	1	2	3	4	5
		Supervisor			Student	
14.	Ensuring that the current research literature has been identified and read by the student	1	2	3	4	5
		Supervisor			Student	
	<u>Other issue</u>	1	2	3	4	5
		Supervisor			Student	

B. Do you agree?

Circle the point on the line that represents your view on the following issues:

					Comments		
15.	A strong personal relationship between supervisor and student is inadvisable during candidature	1	2	3	4	5	
		Supervisor			Student		
16.	The supervisor should assist the student in writing of the thesis if necessary	1	2	3	4	5	
		Supervisor			Student		
17.	The supervisor should see all drafts of the student's written work	1	2	3	4	5	
		Supervisor			Student		
18.	The supervisor should provide detailed commentary on all written work submitted by the student.	1	2	3	4	5	
		Supervisor			Student		
19.	The supervisor's written comments should normally be returned within 2 weeks from time of submission.	1	2	3	4	5	
		Supervisor			Student		
	<u>Other issue</u>	1	2	3	4	5	
		Supervisor			Student		