

Appendix XII - The Profile of a Good Supervisor

The good supervisor:

A good researcher only agrees to act as supervisor for a doctoral thesis if they can offer the doctoral candidate the necessary expertise and support.

Expertise and support — The supervisor:

- knows the administrative/regulatory framework for PhD studies, and advises the doctoral candidate on its application
- has built up a reputation in a field that is at least closely related to that in which the doctoral candidate will be conducting the research.
- is responsible for the intellectual climate in which a doctoral candidate develops their research.
- ensures that the number of doctoral candidates is adapted to the support available (by the supervisor, but also from postdoctoral researchers).
- is co-responsible for the quality of a doctoral candidate's research plan.
- advises their doctoral candidates on securing funding for their research, for instance by applying for external or internal research funds; and contributes through doctoral candidates' funding through their own projects when possible.
- has a stimulating, coordinating and evaluating role for the entire duration of the doctoral process.

Coordination — The supervisor:

- commits sufficient time to speak to the doctoral candidate regularly and monitor the research closely.
- helps with the development of and, where appropriate, changes to the research.
- helps the doctoral candidate place the research in a wider context.

Planning & use of time — The supervisor:

- helps the doctoral candidate to draw up a proper timetable for their research activities.
- ensures that the teaching mandate and other tasks of the doctoral candidate are organised so that there is no risk of the doctoral thesis not being completed within the designated time frame.
- ensures the efficient progress of the doctoral process, preferably within the designated time frame.

Stimulation — The supervisor:

- introduces the doctoral candidate to the academic world by putting them in contact with researchers who can help them, by stimulating them to take part in conferences and in doctoral training, by advising them on the development of his scientific project, by encouraging him/her and making them enthusiastic.

Evaluation — The supervisor:

- is generally present when the doctoral candidate presents their work to other scientists and provides feedback to the doctoral candidate.
- regularly evaluates the progress of the work with the doctoral candidate and advises on necessary adjustments so that the doctoral thesis is completed on time.
- evaluates the doctoral candidate's work, as reported in the ISP, and provides the doctoral candidate with information regarding their advice on the ISP.

Publication — The supervisor:

- has significant co-responsibility for the doctoral candidate's thesis.
- makes the doctoral candidate aware of the possibilities of publication and advises them on the preparation of publications.
- gives the doctoral candidate as many chances as possible to enhance the value of the work delivered as first author in publications.
- advises the PhD student on the importance of mentioning the funding source, and the CU affiliation of the doctoral candidate, in accordance with internal guidelines.
- advises the PhD student how to deal with the protection of the research results prior to publication.