**Managing Expectations:**

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. The major objective of this process is in assisting the student and supervisor to establish an effective working relationship for the duration of the research degree.

**Discuss each of the responsibility issues below, identify who is responsible and outline any areas where you think there is potential for mis-communication. Make any comments or clarifications in the right hand column.**

**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.**

**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.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
|  | **Who should have responsibility for** |  | **Comments** |
| 1 | Selection of the student’s 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 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 | Awareness of facilities and resources in the department and university | 1 2 3 4 5  Supervisor Student |  |
| 7 | Preparation for public presentations of research ideas or results | 1 2 3 4 5  Supervisor Student |  |
| 8 | Finding resources that will support the students research | 1 2 3 4 5  Supervisor Student |  |
| 9 | Developing a network of fellow students or staff | 1 2 3 4 5  Supervisor Student |  |
| 10 | Ensuring the students program is on track and on schedule | 1 2 3 4 5  Supervisor Student |  |
| 11 | Identifying and providing emotional support and encouragement | 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 the thesis will be of an acceptable standard when examined | 1 2 3 4 5  Supervisor Student |  |
| 14 | Ensuring the current research literature has been identified and read by the student | 1 2 3 4 5  Supervisor Student |  |
| 15 | Other Issues – (please describe) | 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 |
| 1 | A strong personal relationship between supervisor and student is inadvisable during candidature | 1 2 3 4 5  Disagree Agree |  |
| 2 | The supervisor should assist the student in writing the thesis if necessary | 1 2 3 4 5  Disagree Agree |  |
| 3 | The supervisor should see all drafts of the students written work | 1 2 3 4 5  Disagree Agree |  |
| 4 | The supervisor should assist the student in completing the analysis of the project data | 1 2 3 4 5  Disagree Agree |  |
| 5 | The supervisor should provide detailed commentary on all written work submitted by the student | 1 2 3 4 5  Disagree Agree |  |
| 6 | The supervisor’s written comments should normally be returned within 2 weeks from time of submission | 1 2 3 4 5  Disagree Agree |  |
| 7 | The supervisor should be advised if the student is having difficulties with their coursework | 1 2 3 4 5  Disagree Agree |  |
| 8 | The supervisor should be advised if the student is experiencing personal difficulties during their course of study | 1 2 3 4 5  Disagree Agree |  |
| 9 | Other issues | 1 2 3 4 5  Disagree Agree |  |