

PD Dr. Helmut Brentel

Initial Supervisors Training – Professionalization of PhD Supervision

Objective

The objective of the workshop is to bring the participants within two days on the advanced level of the experiences and practices in the international development of professional research supervision. This of course comes along with the overall aim to improve the quality of doctoral education, to avoid false selection and dropout, and to establish a highly productive and satisfying supervisory relationship both for the doctoral candidate as well as for the supervisor. The workshop is aiming mainly at younger supervisors who have just started supervising PhD candidates: at junior professors and newly appointed professors as well as at post docs eager to become scholars and supervisors soon. But more experienced supervisors who are interested in the international state of the art of professionalizing PhD supervision are also welcome.

Description

The workshop provides professional knowledge and practices about the crucial issues of research supervision within 6 integrated modules:

- Internationalization and professionalization
- Understanding and working with a Supervisory Biography which gives a detailed overview of all phases, tasks and challenges of the PhD trajectory.
- Understanding the high importance of clarifying mutual expectations of doctoral candidates and supervisors, of the changing roles of supervisors as well as of the skills needed to establish a successful supervisory relationship.
- Concepts and techniques for selecting motivated and well educated doctoral candidates in order to avoid dropout or frustration in the PhD trajectory both for the doctoral candidates as well as for the supervisors.
- Identifying and understanding early warning signs of problems and conflicts as well as techniques and skills in order to jointly analyse the cases and to provide possible solutions.
- Introduction into supervisory 'Intervision', a group coaching technique in order jointly to discuss supervision cases and to exchange experiences with peers.

Methodology

Presentations about the thematic emphases (food for thought), discussion, interactive exercises in groups (developing your own results and solutions), working with and developing a toolkit, peer group coaching, individual feedback