



USM
UNIVERSITI SAINS MALAYSIA



GOOD SUPERVISION PRACTICE FOR G.O.T



UNIVERSITI
TEKNOLOGI
MARA



PROFESSOR DR. ABDUL LATIF AHMAD



OUTLINE



SUCCESSFUL LECTURER



RECIPE FOR PROMOTION





EXCELLENT SUPERVISOR



“*Supervision* in the academic context is a process to **facilitate** the student becoming an **independent professional researcher and scholar** in their field, capable of **adapting** to various research arenas, whether university or industry based”.

Margot Pearson & Angela Brew. (2002).
Research Training and Supervision
Development.
Studies in Higher Education 27(2): 135.

The role of the supervisor is to provide a **high-quality research and learning environment** for the graduate student.

The supervisor through mentoring and advising develops a professional interpersonal relationship with a graduate student that is conducive to scholarly activities, **intellectual enhancement** and promotes the student’s professional career.

James & Baldwin, 1999

GOOD SUPERVISOR

- Encourages autonomy and independence
- Provides constructive and timely feedback
- Has expertise in the research area
- Provides professional guidance
- Regular contact
- Personable
- Supportive
- Flexible
- Friendly



A **good match** between student and supervisor, both academically and personally, is a key catalyst for the development of a successful relationship and progress of a graduate student.



RESEARCH SUPERVISION AND THE PROFESSIONAL AND PERSONAL GROWTH OF GRADUATE STUDENTS



FUNCTIONAL	ENCULTURATION	CRITICAL THINKING	EMANCIPATION		RELATIONSHIP DEVELOPEMENT
SUPERVISORS ACTIVITY	Rational progression through task	Gatekeeping	Evaluation, Challenge	Mentoring, Supporting constructivism	Supervising by experience, Developing a relationship
SUPERVISORS KNOWLEDGE & SKILLS	Directing, Project management	Diagnosis of deficiencies, Coaching	Argument, Analysis	Facilitation, Reflection	Emotional intelligence
POSSIBLE STUDENT REACTION	Obedience, Organised	Role modelling	Constant inquiry, fight or flight	Personal growth, Reframing	Emotional intelligence

(From: Lee, A. (2007). Developing effective supervisors. South African Journal of Higher Education 21(4): 680-93).

AS A SUPERVISOR, YOU NEED TO KNOW



BUILD STUDENT CAPACITY



CREATE RIGHT STUDENT ATTITUDE



- **assist** your student with the **selection and planning** of a suitable and manageable research topic;
- **be sufficiently familiar** with the field of research to provide guidance and/or have a willingness to gain that familiarity before agreeing to act as a supervisor;
- **be accessible** to your student for consultation and discussion
- **respond** in a timely and thorough manner to written work submitted by your student
- make arrangements to **ensure continuity of supervision** if you will be absent for extended periods
- assist your student, when necessary, in **gaining access to facilities** or research materials;
- ensure that the **research environment** is safe, healthy and free from harassment, discrimination and conflict;



GOOD SUPERVISOR INGREDIENT



ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- know student's subject area and theoretical approach
- hold regular meetings with student
- supervision sessions should last at least one hour

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- respond to student's written work
- help new students identify training needs
- advise continuing students on time period for research
- deal with urgent problems at short notice

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- advise on training courses
- introduce students to wider research community
- advise on publication
- assist with funding applications
- nominate examiners and arrange date for viva
- approve fieldwork risk assessment

WHAT PROBLEMS MIGHT ARISE?



COMMON PROBLEMS



Laziness/lack of motivation

Lack of self confidence

Poor time management

No focus or direction

Limited support

Comfort zone

Fear of failure/taking risks

Lack of relevant experience

BASIS OF PROBLEMS

- Lack of communication
- Mismatched expectations
- Personality clash
- Competing pressures



OVERCOMING PROBLEMS



Keep your expectations realistic

Be organised



Be professional

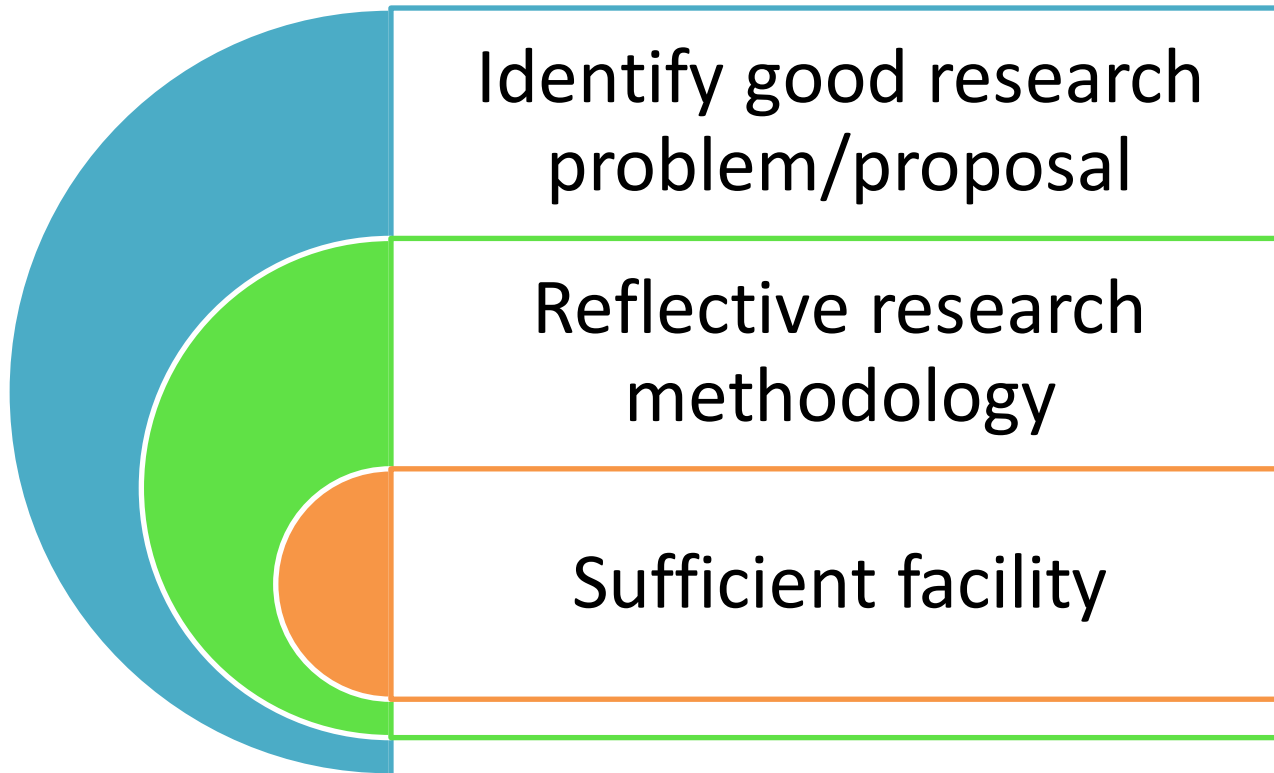


Be open, flexible and honest



TIPS FOR G.O.T

EARLY STAGE

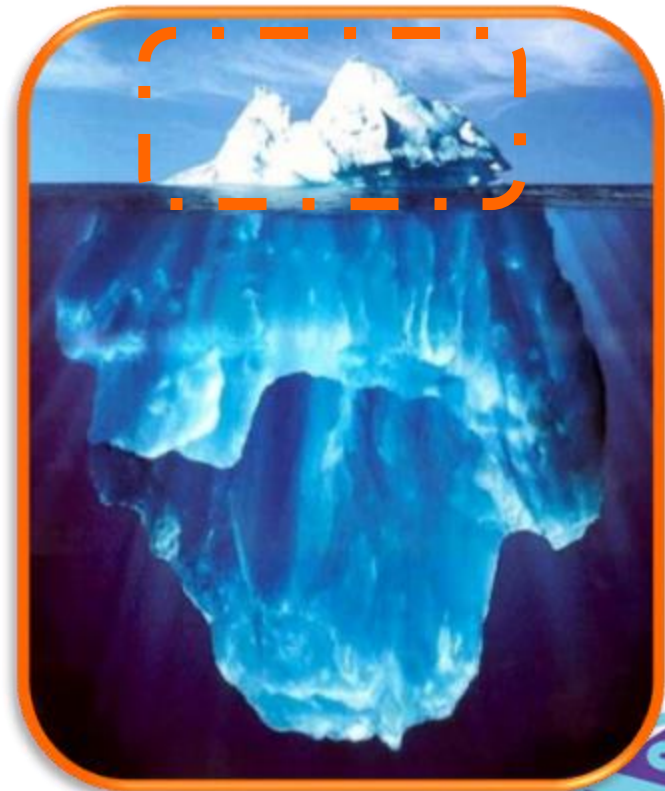


TIPS FOR G.O.T

MIDDLE STAGE

- Regular & focus discussion
- Analysis/ finalized data
- Join conferences & seminar
- Push for publication – 2 M.Sc
5 PhD

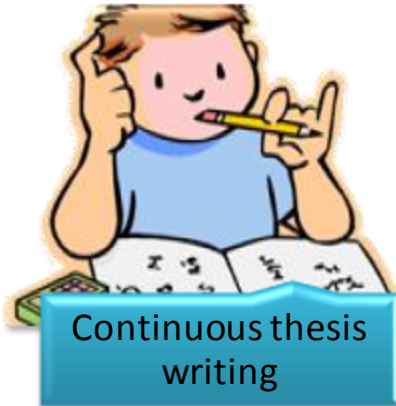
Do not try to fit everything in!



Contributed by Diego Gutierrez

TIPS FOR G.O.T

FINAL STAGE



Continuous thesis writing



Finalized thesis framework



Identify right examiner



Quick response/correction



Thesis submission



