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May 2024

## Activity: Student Advisor Expectations Scale

Read each of pair of statements describing end points on a continuum. Estimate your position and mark it on the scale. For example, if you believe very strongly that it is the advisor's responsibility to select a research topic for the student, on scale #1 you should circle '1'. If you think that both the advisor and student should be equally involved, circle '3'.

The other side of this document describes ways to use this worksheet.

Course of Study & Dissertation Planning		
1. The advisor should suggest and approve which courses the student takes.	1 2 3 4 5	Students should solely determine which courses they take.
2. It is the advisor's responsibility to select a promising dissertation research topic.	1 2 3 4 5	The student is solely responsible for selecting the dissertation topic.
3. The advisor should select the other members of the dissertation reading committee.	1 2 3 4 5	The student should select the members of the dissertation reading committee.
Contact & Involvement		
4. The advisor should determine how often and when to meet with the student.	1 2 3 4 5	The student should decide how often and when to meet with the advisor.
5. Faculty-student relationships are purely professional and personal matters are not appropriate.	1 2 3 4 5	Close personal relationships are essential for successful advising.
6. The advisor should check regularly that the student is working consistently and on task.	1 2 3 4 5	Students should work independently without having to account for how they spend their time. *
7. The advisor should be the first place to turn when the student has problems with the research project.	1 2 3 4 5	Students should try to resolve problems on their own, including seeking input from others, before bringing a research problem to the advisor.
8. The advisor is responsible for providing emotional support and encouragement to the student.	1 2 3 4 5	Emotional support and encouragement are not the responsibility of the advisor – students should look elsewhere.
The Dissertation		
9. The advisor should insist on seeing all drafts of work to ensure that the student is on the right track.	1 2 3 4 5	Students should submit drafts of work only when they want input and feedback from the advisor. * *
10. The advisor should assist in the writing of the dissertation if necessary.	1 2 3 4 5	The writing of the dissertation should only ever be the student's own work. * *
11. The advisor should determine when and where to present or publish the research.	1 2 3 4 5	The student should decide when and where to present or publish the research.
12. The advisor should decide when the dissertation is ready to be defended and submitted.	1 2 3 4 5	The student should decide when the dissertation is ready to be defended and submitted.
13. The advisor has direct responsibility for the quality of the dissertation.	1 2 3 4 5	The student bears sole responsibility for the quality of the dissertation.
Support		
14. The advisor is responsible for finding funding for the student until the student graduates.	1 2 3 4 5	Students are responsible for finding their own sources of funding.
15. The advisor is responsible for introducing the student to others in the field, especially at conferences.	1 2 3 4 5	Students are responsible for building their networks in the field.
16. The advisor is responsible for providing career advice and preparation to the student.	1 2 3 4 5	Career advice and preparation are not the responsibility of the advisor – students should look elsewhere.

Original from Ingrid Moses, 1985, Higher Education Research and Development Society of Australasia. Adapted by Margaret Kiley and Kate Cadman, 1997, Centre for Learning & Teaching, Univ. of Technology, Sydney. Further adapted by Chris M. Golde, 2010, Stanford University.

\* Except if things are bad.  
\* \* Except if things are good.