Post Graduate Student Experience: Success, achievement & futures

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Post Graduate Student Experience: Success, Achievement & Futures

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One: My journey:

‘Pasts’

(Or setting the scene)
My first semester as an academic
Five conversations with my supervisor

1. I am a fraud
Five conversations with my supervisor

2. I have writer’s block
Five conversations with my supervisor

3. I understand (when I had no idea)... ‘smart person syndrome’
Five conversations with my supervisor

4. I cannot do this...
Five conversations with my supervisor

5. I want to change direction
Two: A changing environment:

Futures
Imagination...
A rapidly changing world...
Universities are where newspapers were 10 years ago...
Knowledge transition

sourced from:  http://www.cihr-irsc.gc.ca/e/48802.html
Relational Knowledge
Relational Knowledge that is mediated...
What does a PhD mean in a time of disruption?
A PhD established in Germany

• 1880s
What would these dudes say...

...about this?
But the PhD has not kept up
What we now know...

• 50 percent of postgraduates do not go into academia...
What we now know...

• 50 percent of postgraduates do not go into academia...

• Inter-discipline skills are valued...
What we now know...

• 50 percent of postgraduates do not go into academia...

• Inter-discipline skills are valued...

• Collaboration is highly valued… but difficult to achieve...
What we now know...

• 50 percent of postgraduates do not go into academia...

• Inter-discipline skills are valued...

• Collaboration is highly valued... but difficult to achieve...

• Pressure on completion and finances
Three: How to respond
Success
Knowledge
Skills v. Culture

Knowledge
Knowledge
Knowledge + Skills and Culture
Citizen Scholar

(Citizenship/Communication Skills)

- Adaptability
- Mistakability
- Entrepreneur
- Reflective
- Process
- Critical Thinking
- People Centred
- Aesthetics/Design
- Ethical Leadership
- New Literacy
- Inclusion/Diversity
- International
- Inter-discipline
- Working across teams
- Resilience
- Design thinking
Information scarcity v. information abundance
Four: What we are doing…

Achievement
i. A scaffolded journey
Year 1

- 3 months: early candidate plan

Year 2

- Ethics complete (if required)
- Annual Progress Report

Year 3

- Submission

12 months: Confirmation of Candidature
Year 1

- Before semester: academic literacy workshop
- 3 months: early candidate plan
- 6 months: confirmation of continuation
- 12 months: Confirmation of Candidature

Year 2

- Ethics complete (if required)
- 18 months: career planning
- 3MT
- Annual Progress Report

Year 3

- 6 months prior to submission: Intention to submit
- Submission followed by presentation
Year 1

Before semester: academic literacy workshop

3 months: early candidate plan

6 months: confirmation of continuation

12 months: Confirmation of Candidature

Unit 1 complete

Year 2

18 months: career planning

Unit 3 complete

Ethics complete (if required)

Unit 4 complete

3MT

Annual Progress Report

Year 3

Unit 5 complete

6 months prior to submission: Intention to submit

Unit 6 complete i.e. the presentation

Submission followed by presentation
ii. Career Planning
Career Planning

Non-Government

- FULL
- How to apply for funding
- How to publish
- Knowledge Translation
- IP
- Discipline workshops

Academia

- Incentives to publish
- Internships
- Connect to REDI/Careers

Entrepreneurial

- Crowd funding
- Entrepreneurship/start-up
- Knowledge translation
- IP

Policy/Government
iii. Communication: Knowledge Translation
Knowledge Translation
(based on Graham et al., 2006)

1. Review and select knowledge
2. Adapt knowledge to context
3. Assess barriers to use
4. Apply knowledge (intervention)
5. Monitor knowledge use
6. Evaluate application of Knowledge (intervention)
7. Sustain knowledge use
8a. Toward next generation research (based on KT experience)
8b. Toward continued KT
3MT

Knowledge Translation

1. Review and select knowledge
2. Adapt knowledge to context
3. Assess barriers to use
4. Apply knowledge (intervention)
5. Monitor knowledge use
6. Evaluate application of Knowledge (intervention)
7. Sustain knowledge use
8a. Toward next generation research (based on KT experience)
8b. Toward continued KT
iv. Supervisor Development
iv. Multiple feedback mechanisms
Year 1

Before semester: academic literacy workshop

3 months: early candidate plan

6 months: confirmation of continuation

Unit 1 complete

12 months: Confirmation of Candidature

Unit 2 complete

Year 2

18 months: career planning

Unit 3 complete

Ethics complete (if required)

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Annual Progress Report

Year 3

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Year 1

Before semester:
academic literacy workshop

3 months: early
candidate plan

6 months:
confirmation of
continuation

18 months: career
planning

12 months:
Confirmation of
Candidature

Unit 1 complete

Unit 2 complete

Unit 3 complete

Year 2

Ethics complete
(if required)

Unit 4 complete

3MT

Annual Progress
Report

Year 3

Unit 5 complete

Unit 6 complete i.e. the presentation

6 months prior to
submission: Intention to submit

Submission followed
by presentation
v. Defining expectations...
Final thoughts

• We just not reify the postgraduate process…
Final thoughts

• We just not reify the postgraduate process...

• We need to contextualise it into the contemporary world...
Final thoughts

• We just not reify the postgraduate process...

• We need to contextualise it into the contemporary world...

• We must maintain standards despite these pressures...
Thank you...