



Supervision in Doctoral Education

University of Zagreb, April 19th 2011

Supervision is recognized as a central place of successful doctoral education and it is the foundation on which the doctoral thesis is built. As a part of on-going process to improve the quality of doctoral education, University of Zagreb has put a large effort in raising awareness of the importance of supervision among all participants of doctoral education. This effort has recently been backed by the adoption of new Regulations on Doctoral Studies at the University of Zagreb (April 2010), which opened up the space for the establishment of new models of structured institutional support for doctoral education at the University of Zagreb. Institutional support means responsibility for training through research, as stated in Salzburg II recommendations, and one of these support measures already implemented are obligatory workshops for new supervisors, which have started in March 2011.

As a continuation of these efforts, University of Zagreb organized the conference *Supervision in Doctoral Education* in order to tackle the most important issues and problems in doctoral supervision. One of the goals of the conference is to present examples of good practice in providing institutionalized support for supervision from partner and neighbouring universities.

The agenda of the conference follows the three parts of doctoral education process – first session of the conference is dedicated to the entry phase of doctoral studies and the role of supervisor at the beginning of studies, such as establishing good relationship with the doctoral candidate and defining the research topic. Second session covers the research phase and its central concern is supervisor's support during the research process, which is regarded as a central and most difficult part of doctoral education. Third session is concerned with the role of supervisor in preparation for theses defence and in career guidance of doctoral candidates.

Each session begins with a keynote speaker, followed by a discussant whose role is to stimulate the polemic about the most important aspects raised. At the end of all three sessions, opportunity is given for a major discussion on all the topics covered at the conference.

Conference is targeted to the scientist from the University of Zagreb, heads of doctoral programmes and vice-deans for science, but it is also open to guests, partner and neighbouring universities and all other participants in doctoral education.



University of
Zagreb

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Tuesday, April 19th, 2011
Trg marsala Tita 14, 9.15 – 17.00

8.30 Registration

Registration at the University of Zagreb, Trg marsala Tita 14

9.15 – 9.30 Opening word

Melita Kovačević, Vice-rector for Research and Technology, University of Zagreb

Ana Borovečki, University of Zagreb, School of Medicine

9.30 – 11.00 I. Session - *Entry phase – Warming up for research*

Supervisor's role in introductory phase of doctoral education. Establishing the relationship. Defining the expectations and responsibilities. Defining the thesis. Working up the research plan.

Chair: Neven Budak, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Speaker: Duško Sekulić, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Law

Discussant: Lucas Zinner, University of Vienna, Centre for Doctoral Studies

11.00 – 11.30 Coffee break



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11.30 – 13.00 II. Session - *Research phase – Development of a Researcher Through Research*

Establishing research conditions. Recognising problems and risks. Constructive criticism.

Chair: Ignac Lovrek, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing

Speaker: Katja Breskvar, University of Ljubljana, Head of Doctoral School

Discussant: Helmut Brentel, Goethe Universität Frankfurt, Frankfurt Graduate School for the Humanities and Social Sciences

13.00 – 14.00 Lunch

14.00 – 15.30 III. Session - *Final phase - Finishing the doctorate*

Preparing the defence. Career guidance. Publishing.

Chair: Jasenka Gudelj, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Speaker: Hrvoje Šikić, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Science

Discussant: Zdravko Lacković, University of Zagreb, School of Medicine

15.30 – 16.30 Plenary discussion

Chair: Hrvoj Vančik, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Science

16.30 – 17.00 Summary

Chair: Neven Budak, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences

Nikolina Brnjac, University of Zagreb, Faculty of Transport and Traffic Sciences