1 ACGR Guidelines for Quality Graduate Research Supervision



ACGR Guidelines for Tracking Graduate Research Candidates

These Guidelines should be read in association with the Australian Graduate Research Good Practice Principles

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2 ACGR Guidelines for Tracking Graduate Research Candidates

# Preamble

ACGR recognises the importance of effectively tracking research candidates during candidature and following graduation.

* Individual graduate research candidate progress is monitored during candidature to ensure the provision of appropriate support to facilitate successful and timely completion and to ensure graduate researcher development and welfare.
* Graduate research candidate cohort tracking is completed to enhance and develop opportunities and facilities for all candidates.
* Tracking graduate research candidates after graduation facilitates the provision of strong career guidance to current and future graduate research candidates and maintains a link with alumni.

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# The ACGR recommends that:

1. Monitoring of individual candidate progress is conducted at least annually with appropriate feedback, support and intervention provided in response. Both candidates and supervisors should contribute to these reviews.
2. Established milestones (e.g., confirmation) are set against which candidate progress can be assessed.
3. Monitoring of the broader graduate research experience, through cohort based surveys and other mechanisms is an important developmental exercise to inform the enhancement of the experience for current and future cohorts of graduate research candidates. A feedback loop to graduate research candidates identifies comments received and actions taken in response.
4. Monitoring includes consideration of academic and non-academic issues, including candidate welfare and the student-supervisor relationship.
5. Universities track the research outputs produced during and after candidature including publication and creative works and other contributions to the research and engagement agendas of their institutions.
6. Universities conduct exit/completions surveys to complement those conducted during candidature. The added value is purpose is gain insights into the completion and submission experience and/or to identify and mitigate reasons for candidate withdrawal prior to qualification completion.
7. Universities track the progress of graduate research candidate alumni. Tracking includes career tracking, reflections on graduate research candidature and skill acquisition. Such tracking can facilitate career advice and development for current and future graduate research candidates, provide opportunities for professional networking and mentorship and provide valuable insights and benefits for the institution.
8. Wherever possible the monitoring of current and graduated candidates take consideration of demographic characteristics such gender, citizenship, enrolments status and equity groupings to better understand the experiences of particular cohorts.

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