

## PHD Supervision Plan

### PhD Supervision Overall Plan

This supervision plan is meant to clarify PhD supervision in the Faculty of Natural Sciences.

#### What is PhD supervision?

Supervision (as meant in this document) is the interactive activity within by the supervisors that supports the PhD students' work. The PhD students are also supported by study administration.

#### The goals of PhD supervision

The main goal of supervision is the student's graduation with a PhD degree. The PhD supervision supports development of research skills, and production and publishing of scientific results. The supervision promotes the supervisee's development of scientific thinking and the development of his/her identity as a researcher, and the integration of the supervisee in to the research community.

Further goals of the supervision are maintenance of the supervisee's motivation, support of the supervisee's focused long-term goal-oriented work, support of appropriate co-learning and research collaboration, understanding and commitment to proper work ethics, and understanding of research funding, especially on the ways of getting funding and writing funding applications.

The supervisee and the supervisor shall have an agreement on publication strategy and the roles of different authors and an agreement on the working habits and duties of supervisee and supervisor(s) in the case of joint publication.

#### Methods of PhD supervision

The primary and the only non-optional method of supervision is individual supervision by the supervisor(s). Supervision in group meetings is also possible, if a suitable group exists. Supervision is also possible in the form of courses and seminars.

#### PhD supervisors

There are usually two supervisors who are nominated by the faculty. The supervisors can be changed if necessary. At least one of the supervisors must be a professor or docent employed at the University of Tampere.

### Problematic situations

A student should first try to resolve problematic situations directly with her/his supervisors. Next, the student should try to resolve the issue with the person in charge of the doctoral programme, and then with the dean of the faculty.

### Nature of PhD supervision

The supervision process aims for consensus and understanding. The supervision needs to take into account the individual properties and personalities of both the PhD student and the supervisor and support the increase of knowledge and understanding of the PhD student.

### Formalities

The student is required to have a written study and supervision plan which includes the planned frequency of supervision meetings and the individually tailored plan of studies. The study and supervision plan is revised when necessary. The student's initial research plan (from the time of applying to study) is updated when appropriate. The commitment of both the supervisees and supervisors to follow these guidelines is also required.