

UEA RESEARCH DEGREE EDUCATION STRATEGY

QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE
FOR SUPERVISORS

KNOWLEDGE AND INTELLECTUAL ABILITIES

PERSONAL EFFECTIVENESS

RESEARCH GOVERNANCE AND ORGANISATION

ENGAGEMENT, INFLUENCE AND IMPACT

UEA RESEARCH DEGREE EDUCATION STRATEGY

THE UEA RESEARCH DEGREE EDUCATION STRATEGY WAS APPROVED BY UEA SENATE IN FEBRUARY 2015 FOLLOWING CONSULTATION WITH ACADEMIC AND PROFESSIONAL STAFF, STUDENTS AND GRADUATE SCHOOL EXECUTIVES.

In it we state our commitment to the following key principles:

- Consideration of research degree candidates both as early-career researchers and UEA-registered students.
- Provision of high quality training within the Norwich Research Park that supports candidates' research and prepares them for a variety of different possible career paths.
- Provision of high-quality student services and facilities.
- Ensuring a strong professional relationship between candidates and their supervisory teams.
- Continuing to evaluate, develop and enhance our research degree provision in ways that are linked to the development of the University's research strategy, the UEA Plan and UEA Vision 2030.

This guide is intended for all supervisors of research degree candidates registered at UEA, to provide some quick reference points for how supervisors can support implementation of the strategy.

Download the Strategy at
portal.uea.ac.uk/postgraduate-research/strategy.

HOW SUPERVISORS CAN SUPPORT IMPLEMENTATION OF THE RESEARCH DEGREE EDUCATION STRATEGY

ADMISSIONS AND RECRUITMENT

Supervisors should:

- Respond to all enquiries quickly, either by replying directly to an enquiry or by forwarding it to the PGR Service at pgr.enquiries.admiss@uea.ac.uk
- Follow the PGR Admissions Framework
- Make all decisions in a timely manner
- Note that all interviews should involve someone not in the supervisory team

BIDDING FOR FUNDING

Supervisors should:

- Inform the Head of PGR Service of bids which will involve two or more PGR studentships or any external partners
- Be aware of national frameworks for delivering learning in partnership with others such as Chapter B10 of the UK Quality Code and that PGR Service Managers can advise further on this

EARLY INTERVENTION

Supervisors should:

- Encourage candidates encountering difficulties to seek support promptly and submit any concession requests as soon as possible (e.g. for intercalation)
- Provide all the information requested in the new concessions forms to ensure faster turnaround and so that the best decisions can be made

GOOD SUPERVISORY PRACTICE

Supervisors should:

- Provide timely and helpful feedback
- Encourage candidates to broaden their horizons beyond UEA and Norwich
- Work within University frameworks such as UEA Regulations and the Code of Practice for Research Degrees
- Be aware of national frameworks such as Chapter B11 of the UK Quality Code

PROGRESS AND ENGAGEMENT

Supervisors should:

- Familiarise themselves with new regulations around probation for candidates registering from 2015-16
- Sign off monthly supervision journal reports where these are introduced to help comply with UK Research Council and UK Visas and Immigration reporting requirements

WORKING WITH THE PGR SERVICE

Supervisors can:

- Find more on each of these items and details of key academic PGR lead and professional PGR Service contacts from portal.uea.ac.uk/pgresearch/strategy/supervisors
- Let the University know of any further suggestions via your School or Institute Director of Postgraduate Research



QUICK REFERENCE GUIDE TO THE STRATEGY

The Research Degree Education Strategy consists of fifteen Strategic Aims. Progress on these will be monitored on an annual basis by the PGR Executive and Graduate School Executives.

- 1) Provide a dynamic and stimulating research environment
- 2) Offer challenging and properly resourced research projects
- 3) Provide an effective induction to doctoral-level education
- 4) Ensure best practice and good conduct in research
- 5) Encourage strong relationships between staff and candidates
- 6) Provide timely feedback and actively manage progression
- 7) Provide career information throughout the research degree programme and beyond graduation
- 8) Assess training needs in order to support research and enhance employability
- 9) Offer a wider range of training opportunities
- 10) Provide opportunities to develop an academic profile and establish networks
- 11) Provide opportunities for research degree candidates who wish to teach
- 12) Promote international citizenship
- 13) Develop a governance structure that can oversee the specialist provision of research degrees
- 14) Work with a range of stakeholders to evaluate and enhance our research degree provision
- 15) Improve professional support for research degree education

It also defines various Attributes of UEA Doctoral Graduates, themed by the domains of the **VITAE Researcher Development Framework:**

Knowledge and intellectual abilities

Research governance and organization

Personal effectiveness

Engagement influence and impact

KEY CONTACTS

- Academic Director of Research Degree Programmes (2012 – 2017)
Dr Nick Watmough, Reader, n.watmough@uea.ac.uk, 01603 59 2179
- Head of Postgraduate Research Service, Research and Enterprise Division
Dr Vivien Easson, v.easson@uea.ac.uk, 01603 59 1835
- Postgraduate Research Service: portal.uea.ac.uk/postgraduate-research