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Openness in Action: The GO-GN Guide to Doctoral Supervision

Abstract

This workshop aims through roundtable discussion to validate and solicit input for a new guide developed for enhancing the doctoral supervision process. The Global OER Graduate Network (GO-GN) is a network of doctoral candidates whose research projects include a focus on open education (i.e. Open Educational Resources, Open Educational Practices, Massive Open Online Courses). 180+ doctoral and early career researchers are at the core of the network; around them, over two hundred experts, supervisors, and mentors form a community of practice. GO-GN aims to: raise the profile of open education research; support doctoral research, promote equity and inclusion; and develop openness as a process of research.

GO-GN explores open practice through co-creation of openly licensed doctoral resources designed for accessibility. These include The GO-GN Research Methods Handbook (Farrow et al., 2020) and The GO-GN Guide to Conceptual Frameworks (Farrow et al., 2021), which are consolidated in The GO-GN Open Research Handbook (Farrow et al., 2023)

GO-GN is writing an additional Guide for doctoral supervision processes which will also be incorporated into the Handbook. Data collection ends in June and the Guide will be written in July and August. We would share our draft with delegates before the conference. The workshop would provide a forum for feedback and structured discussion, as well as validation of the manuscript.

Through collaborative efforts, we aim to enhance the quality and effectiveness of PhD supervision practices and ultimately support the success and well-being of doctoral students and supervisors.

Engagement Strategy

Prior to the workshop, participants will receive a draft version of the guide to familiarize themselves with its contents. They will be encouraged to review and/or annotate the material and come prepared with questions, observations, and suggestions for improvement. Emphasis will be placed on constructive feedback aimed at improving the clarity, relevance, and practicality of the recommendations.

As an openly licensed resource, the Guide will be available to others (for free) to repurpose or reversion. This provides a route for ongoing engagement with the material. We offer a co-author credit for significant contributions, which may be of interest to some delegates.

This workshop will contribute to the validation and refinement of guidance relevant to the supervision process. We seek to refine and finalize the guide to ensure its relevance, applicability, and effectiveness in diverse academic settings, and feel this exercise would be appreciated by experienced doctoral supervisors.

References:

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