

Faculty Development Showcase Week: Committee 101 - The Role of Faculty in Guidance Committees

Course Description:

Guidance committees are responsible for the successful completion of student research, and the writing of the dissertation or thesis. Even though very few students fail to arrive at a successful completion, committees often experience some forms of dysfunctionality resulting in frustration, and wasted time and resources. Part of the problem stems from the lack of clarity about the work of the guidance committee. In some instances, the committee is not sure of what the main purpose is and what steps to follow to ensure student progress. Committee members may be unclear about their roles within the committee and in relation to the student. The committee may lack ways to communicate effectively and to give input about the student's work and writing. The committee chair is the rightful leader of the committee. The chair must help define how the committee will work with the student, and should facilitate understanding of the roles of committee members and the student during the guidance process. Effective communication between all is essential for successful completion of the dissertation or thesis.

Course Objectives:

The participant will:

- 1. Identify the purpose and work of the guidance committee
- 2. Articulate the role of the committee chair
- 3. State the role of committee members

COMMITTEE 101: THE ROLE OF FACULTY IN GUIDANCE COMMITTEES RAFAEL CANIZALES, PHD

OBJECTIVES

- Purpose of Guidance Committees
- CONDITIONS TO JOIN A COMMITTEE
- **EXPECTATIONS OF STUDENTS**
- ROLE OF COMMITTEE CHAIR



THE PROBLEM THE PROBLEM • SHE DID NOT KNOW THE PROBLEM • SHE DID NOT KNOW • DYSFUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE

THE PROBLEM

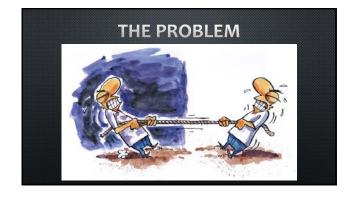
- SHE DID NOT KNOW
- DYSFUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE
- COMMITTEE CHAIR

THE PROBLEM

- •SHE DID NOT KNOW
- DYSFUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE
- COMMITTEE CHAIR —
- COMMITTEE MEMBER ←

THE PROBLEM

- •SHE DID NOT KNOW
- DYSFUNCTIONAL COMMITTEE
- COMMITTEE CHAIR —
- •COMMITTEE MEMBER
- SAD ENDING...



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• CIRCA 50% OF DOCTORAL STUDENTS

ATTRITION

- CIRCA 50% OF DOCTORAL STUDENTS
- •25% OF DOCTORAL CANDIDATES

ATTRITION

- •CIRCA 50% OF DOCTORAL STUDENTS
- •25% OF DOCTORAL CANDIDATES
- STUDENT FAILURE

ATTRITION

- CIRCA 50% OF DOCTORAL STUDENTS
- •25% OF DOCTORAL CANDIDATES
- STUDENT FAILURE
- COMMITTEE FAILURE?

GUIDANCE COMMITTEES

- WRITE A DISSERTATION
- ACHIEVE RESEARCH INDEPENDENCE
- Make original contribution to DISCIPLINE

GUIDANCE COMMITTEES • Successful completion of the dissertation • Student success

COMMITTEE

- STUDENT
- CHAIR/ADVISOR
- COMMITTEE MEMBERS/FACULTY
- NEED FOR CLEAR ROLES



BEGINNINGS •INVITATION BEGINNINGS •INVITATION • ACCEPT OR NOT? **BEGINNINGS** • INVITATION • ACCEPT OR NOT? • CRUCIAL OPPORTUNITY

CONTRACT • Your contribution?

CONTRACT

- YOUR CONTRIBUTION?
- WRITE THE DISSERTATION?

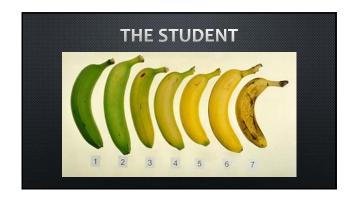
CONTRACT

- YOUR CONTRIBUTION?
- WRITE THE DISSERTATION?
- YOUR EXPERTISE?



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CONTRACT • YOUR CONTRIBUTION? • WRITE THE DISSERTATION? • YOUR EXPERTISE? • ROLE VARIES E X P E R T





THE STUDENT • COMPETENCE • MOTIVATION • INVESTMENT • YOUR EXPECTATIONS

DUE DILIGENCE REPORT

- AM KEEPING MY SIDE OF THE CONTRACT...
- •This is what I did this month...
- NEXT STEPS...
- CHRONOGRAM

COMMITTEE CHAIR

- YOUR CALL
- PREVIOUS EXPERIENCE
- NEEDED SCHOLARSHIP

CHAIR-STUDENT

- MOST IMPORTANT RELATIONSHIP
- GREATEST IMPACT ON PERFORMANCE

STUDENTS WHO CHARACTERIZED THEIR
DISSERTATION EXPERIENCES AS POSITIVE
REPORTED THAT THEIR CHAIR WAS RESPONSIVE,
SUPPORTIVE, AND PROVIDED STRUCTURE AND
GUIDANCE; IN CONTRAST, STUDENTS
EXPERIENCING PROBLEMATIC DISSERTATIONS
FOUND THEIR ADVISORS TO BE NON-RESPONSIVE
AND TO HAVE LIMITED AVAILABILITY.

(BURKARD ET AL., 2007)

FUNCTIONS-STUDENT

- CHEERLEADER
- QUESTIONS AND NEEDS
- Counselor
- COACH
- CRITIC

FUNCTION-COMMITTEE • POLICIES OF FACULTY OF GRADUATE STUDIES • MEMBERSHIP IN FGS KNOW THE RULES

COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP

DURING THE WRITING OF THE
DISSERTATION OR THESIS, THE COMMITTEE
CHAIR WILL BE THE MAIN SOURCE OF
GUIDANCE TO STUDENTS TO ENSURE HIGH
QUALITY AND ADHERENCE TO
SCHOLARLY STANDARDS.

COMMITTEE LEADERSHIP

- LEADERSHIP AMONG COLLEAGUES
- REGULAR COMMUNICATION WITH COMMITTEE
- JOINT AND CONSENSUAL PROGRESS

STUDENT SUCCESS

- MISSION OF FACULTY IS STUDENT SUCCESS
- Assumed responsibility to Help