

## Supervision and guidance of PhD students

### Why - Objectives

Supervision of PhD students can be quite challenging. Both, the PhD student and the advisor have expectations regarding the progress and outcome of the PhD project. But this does not necessarily mean that they follow the same way to meet these expectations. As in other relationships, effective communication is also a key aspect for the cooperation between PhD students and their advisor(s). However, communication within this special relationship sometimes faces challenges.

In this workshop, we will discuss challenges and chances involved in supervising/advising PhD students. Participants of the workshop are encouraged to share their experiences and discuss ideas for improvement. Specific topics that could be addressed are:

Introducing the PhD student to the topic – the start-up phase

Control vs. freedom: supervision development over the 3 year PhD-term

Leadership skills: how to “handle” PhD students

### How - Methods

The training is conducted over 2 full days as a workshop. It mixes short theory lectures, discussions, individual and small-group exercises, plus role-playing exercises with feedback. The case studies are provided by the participants to ensure that the scenarios are as realistic as possible. For that a questionnaire is sent to the participants in advance.

### When - Course schedule (example)

Day 1            9:30 – 12:45 and 13.45 – 17:30

Day 2            9:00 – 12:30 and 13:30 – 17:30

### Where – Location

Seminar room at your institute.