

## **Student Consultation: Supervisor support and development**

In 2019-20, the Graduate School established a task and finish group to review the recommendations made by the Imperial College Union (ICU) in response to PRES 2019.

The recommendations made by the ICU were divided into themes; Creating Effective Student-Supervisor Partnerships, Supervisor Support and Development, Doctoral Student Wellbeing and Poor Supervision and Research Culture and Environment.

[Read our PRES 2019 website which provides information on actions we have taken to address your feedback.](#)

There are many examples of effective student-supervisor partnerships across the College. However, sometimes partnerships do not work out as expected. The Graduate School is now launching a consultation for all doctoral students to contribute their thoughts on how to enhance support and development opportunities for supervisors in order that your overall supervisory experience is improved.

**The consultation is now open and will close on the 31 July.** There are 9 questions in total, but you do not need to answer all of them, just those which are important to you. To keep the survey anonymous, no participant data will be collected.

Your feedback will be considered by the Graduate School through August and September and recommendations made to the October meeting of the Postgraduate Research Quality Committee.

The Graduate School will keep you informed of what action is being taken through its autumn term newsletters.

## Part one – Introductory Question

1. **To what extent do you agree with this statement, “Overall, I am happy with the supervision I receive at College.” [drop down choice]**

definitely agree / mostly agree / neither agree nor disagree / mostly disagree / definitely do not agree

## Part two: Your student-supervisor partnership

2. **Consider the following points - tick all those where you think your supervisor has provided you with good support**

- Helping to prepare me for milestone assessments
- Helping to prepare me for my viva
- Providing me with timely and effective feedback
- My health and wellbeing
- Supporting my professional development
- My career development
- Helping me to develop research networks
- Other – please state

3. **Consider the following points - tick all those where you think your supervisor has not provided you with good support**

- Helping to prepare me for milestone assessments
- Helping to prepare me for my viva
- Providing me with timely and effective feedback
- My health and wellbeing
- Supporting my professional development
- My career development
- Helping me to develop research networks
- Other – please state

4. **If you could pick up to three areas of training , which all supervisors at the College should complete, what would they be?**

[free text]

5. **There are very good examples of effective and successful student-supervisor partnerships at the College. However, sometimes these do not turn out as expected. What can the College do better in terms of supporting you through difficulties with your partnership?**

[free text]

6. We understand that students are fearful about raising concerns about poor supervision. What could the College do to help reassure you that your voice will be heard without repercussion? We are looking for helpful, practical solutions.

[free text]

7. The College has a complaints procedure which can be used by students wishing to formally complain about their supervisor. However, what “informal” measures could be put in place to support you and your supervisor to address difficulties prior to this? Again, we are looking for helpful, practical solutions.

[free text]

8. To what extent do you agree with this statement, “The College appropriately recognises good supervision” [drop down choice]

definitely agree / mostly agree / neither agree nor disagree / mostly disagree / definitely do not agree.

9. How could the College better recognise excellent supervisors?

[free text]

END