

# Graduate Student Supervision

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Studies



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Academic Leadership  
Forum

16 December 2015

# Agenda

- 8:30 am** Welcome & Opening Remarks - **Prof. Ghyslaine McClure**, *Associate Provost (Budget and Resources)*
- 8:35 am** Session Objectives and Opening Activity
- 8:45 am** Supervision at McGill
- 8:55 am** Role of Chair and GPD in Supervision
- 9:00 am** Activity: Supervision Issues and Solutions
- 9:20 am** Future Projects
- 9:25 am** Questions and Discussion
- 9:50 am** Closing Remarks
- 9:59 am** Conclusion and Wrap-up - **Prof. Ghyslaine McClure**, *Associate Provost (Budget and Resources)*



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# Objectives

- Provide a forum for discussion of supervision issues and solutions
- Clarify roles of Chair and GPD in graduate supervision
- Provide resources (e.g., regulations, best practices) for Chairs and supervisors



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# Opening Activity

On a piece of paper, complete this sentence:

Supervision is....



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# Supervision at McGill: Policy

1.1.1. Supervision is a recognized aspect of the academic duty of teaching. (*GPS Policies and Guidelines on Graduate Student Advising and Supervision*)

1.3.2 “Academic duties” of a member of the tenure track and tenured academic staff include:

- i) teaching (graduate and undergraduate classes and supervision of individual student programs)  
(*McGill Regulations Relating to the Employment of Academic Staff*)



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# Supervision at McGill: History

- 2003 Mandatory annual progress tracking for PhD students
- 2007 Collaborations between TLS and GPS  
Supervision workshops
- 2012 Supervision Health Scan  
Grad Supervision website
- 2014: Supervision policy changes
- Mandatory supervision orientation for new faculty
  - Mandatory supervision orientation for incoming graduate students
  - Mandatory committee member for PhD students

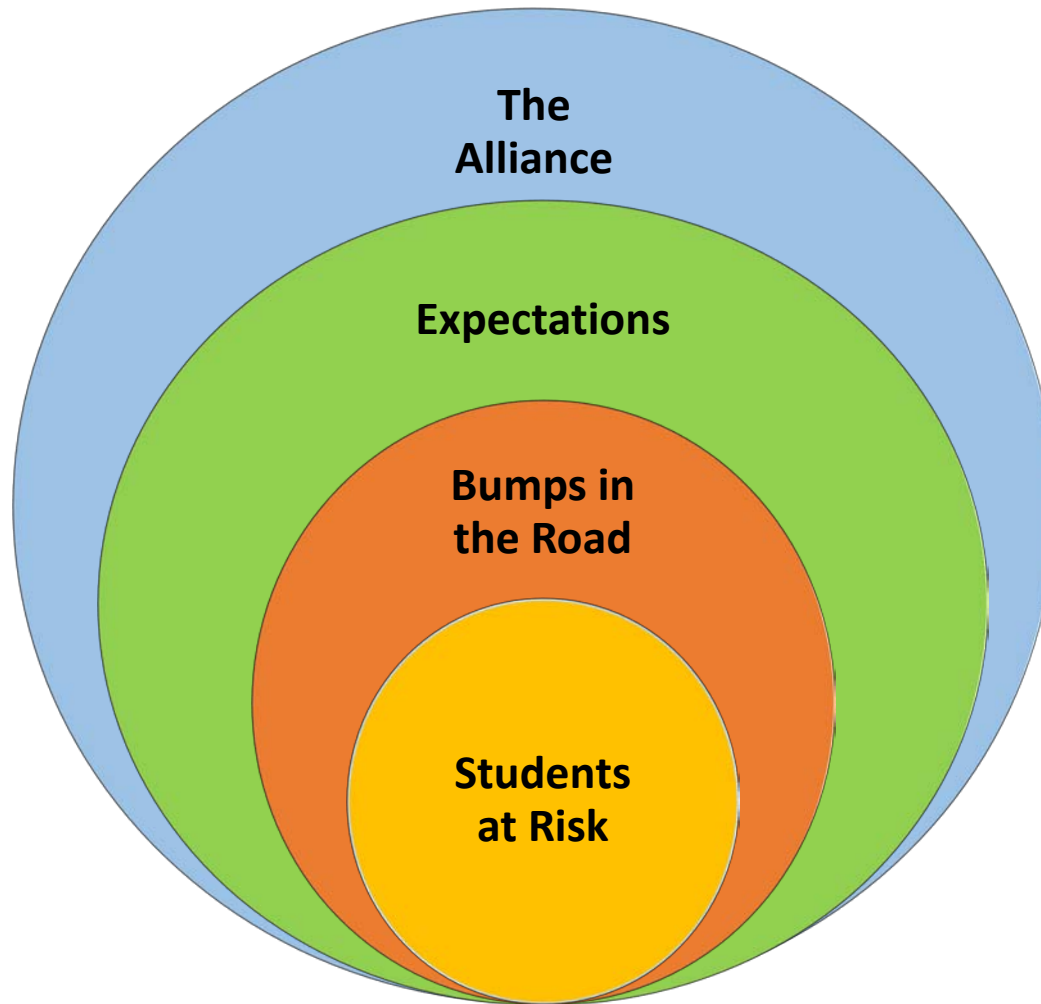


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# Supervision Workshops (TLS/GPS)

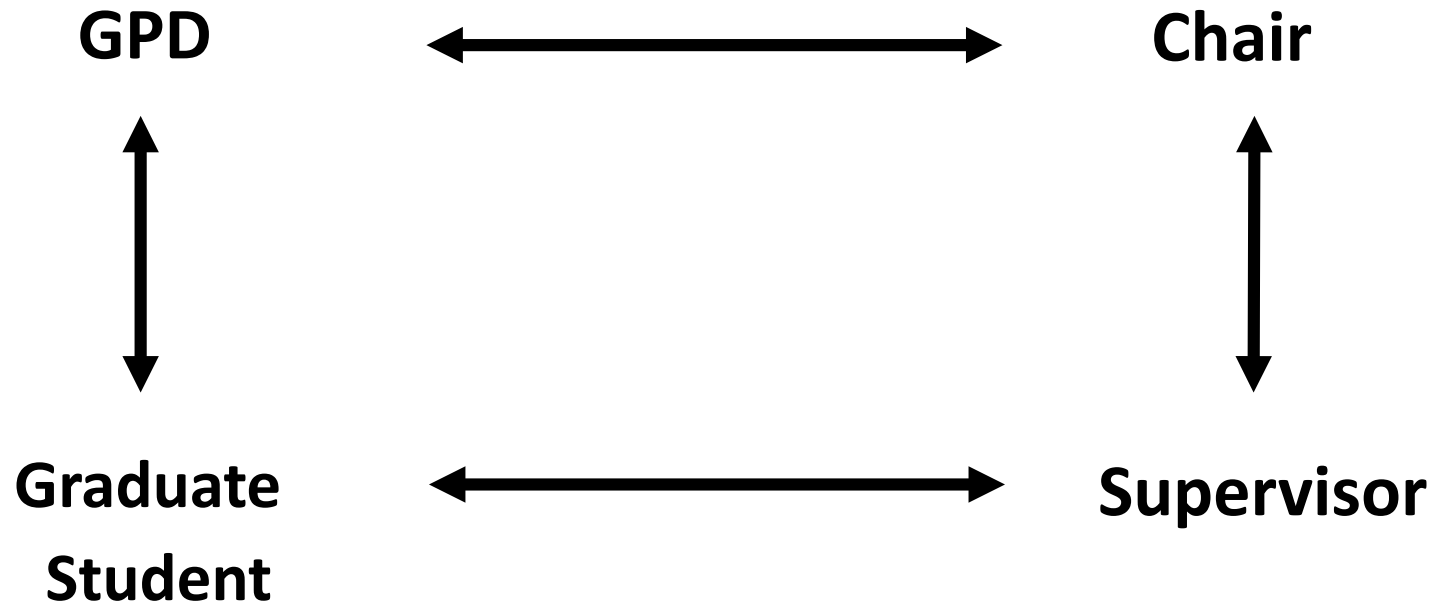


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# Roles of Chair and GPD in Supervision



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# Suggestions for Chair

1. Review Roles and Responsibilities of GPD
2. Support GPD with faculty members
3. Assist GPD in resolving supervisory issues and improving supervisory practices
4. Have regular meetings between Chair and GPD



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# Activity

Issues

Solutions



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# Future Projects

- Supervisory Letter of Agreement
  - [Examples on Grad Supervision website](#)
- Implementation of mandatory policies
  - Orientation for new hires – Winter 2016
  - Online orientation for new graduate students – pilot launched January 2015
- Individual Development Plans (IDPs)
  - E.g., <http://myidp.sciencecareers.org/>



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# Questions and Discussion



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# Closing Remarks

- McGill is at the forefront of a trend in supervision
- Practical actions you can take as leaders
  - Meet with GPDs
  - Promote supervision website in Faculty Council
  - Talk about supervision strategies
  - Attend a workshop
  - Send new hires to workshops
  - Create a supervision mentor system of support



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# Resources

- [GPS Policies and Guidelines on Graduate Supervision](#)
- [Regulations Relating to the Employment of Academic Staff](#)
- [GPD Roles and Responsibilities](#)
- [Grad Supervision website](#)
- [TLS Supervision workshops](#)



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25 January 2016

Next ALF is **January 25**  
*Equity Topics*