

POSTGRADUATE EXIT SURVEY

This questionnaire is designed to gather information about your experience as a postgraduate research student at the University of Adelaide. The information from this questionnaire will be used to complement the data gathered by the national Postgraduate Research Experience Questionnaire (PREQ), which you will be asked to complete on graduation. The information from both of these questionnaires will help to improve the quality of postgraduate research students' experiences at the University of Adelaide.

The University wishes to be as fully informed as possible of any issues that have impacted upon the quality of your experience as a postgraduate student. Your opinions are considered critical. Consequently, the University has resolved to make participation in the Exit Survey a condition of thesis submission. If you object to this requirement, you should appeal to the Deputy Vice-Chancellor (Research) in writing giving the reasons for your objection. In such cases, we regret that your thesis will not be accepted for examination until the matter is resolved.

Please be frank in your responses to questions. Summary results will be made available to Faculties in due course but any information you provide will be aggregated. To maintain confidentiality and prevent the identification of individual respondents, aggregations will only be reported where the Faculty, School or Discipline concerned has 5 or more respondents. You may also choose to make your responses to this questionnaire anonymous. I assure you that individual data will not be made available to any party for any purpose.

Please read on ...

1. The survey is mainly in multiple choice form but you are welcome to elaborate further on any matter, by attaching separate sheets to this document.
2. This survey is administered by the Adelaide Graduate Centre.
3. Your suggestions as to how this survey may be improved are most welcome.

To ensure confidentiality is maintained, please return your completed Survey form as follows:

1. Please place the completed survey inside the envelope marked "Envelope 1-Exit Survey" and seal it.
2. Place "Envelope 1" inside the one marked with your name and student number (Envelope 2) and seal it.
3. Place "Envelope 2" inside the reply-paid envelope addressed to the Adelaide Graduate Centre.
4. Please send to or lodge your completed Exit Survey form with the

**Adelaide Graduate Centre
University of Adelaide
Level 13, 10 Pulteney Street
Adelaide SA 5005**

PLEASE NOTE: Envelope 2 (with your name and student number) is destroyed upon receipt. It is used only to confirm that you have completed the survey.

Thank you for your participation.

ANNE WITT
Manager, Graduate Administration and Scholarships

1. Demographic Information

The analysis of the data gathered by this questionnaire will be improved if we have the following information:

1.1 Faculty _____

1.2 School _____

1.3 Department/Discipline _____

Please tick a box for the following questions:

1.4 What postgraduate program have you just completed?

Doctor of Philosophy Other doctoral qualification Master's by research

1.5 What was your highest previous qualification?

Master's by Research Other postgraduate qualification Honours degree Ordinary degree

1.6 What was the first year of your enrolment in your current postgraduate research program?

Year _____

1.7 Has your enrolment status been

Mostly full-time Approx. 50:50 full-time: half-time Mostly half-time

1.8 Has your enrolment been:

Continuous One leave of absence More than one leave of absence

1.9 Approximately how many years Full Time Equivalent (FTE) have you been enrolled?

For example: 2 years as a full-time student, followed by 6 months of leave of absence, followed by 4 years as a half-time enrolment = 2 + 0 + (4 X 0.5) = 4 years

Years _____

1.10 On which campus did you spend most of your time?

North Terrace Waite Roseworthy Thebarton Off-campus in SA Interstate Overseas

1.11 Age range

Under 25 25-29 30-34 35-40 Over 40

1.12 Gender: Male Female

1.13 are you an Australian citizen/Permanent resident? Yes No

1.14 are you an Aboriginal/Torres Strait Inlander? Yes No

1.15 Is English your first language? Yes No

1.16 Did you hold a scholarship? Yes No

2. Supervision

- 2.1 For most of your candidature did you have Only one supervisor A panel of supervisors
- 2.2 On average, how frequently do you meet with your principal (main) supervisor?
Weekly or more often Fortnightly Monthly
Every two months Less frequently
- 2.3 On average, how often do you meet with your whole supervisory panel?
Monthly or more often Twice a semester Twice a year
Once a year Never Not relevant to my situation
- 2.4 How often has your principal (main) supervisor changed since you began your candidature (excluding normal leave periods)?
Never Once Twice More often
- 2.5 On average, how often do you meet, or communicate with your Postgraduate Coordinator?
Never Once a year Twice a year More often
- 2.6 Overall, how would you rate the quality of the supervision you received during your candidature?
Excellent Satisfactory A mix of good and bad experiences
Poor Very poor

3. Intellectual Property and Commercialisation

- 3.1 Was adequate information and advice regarding Intellectual Property and its commercialisation available to you?
Yes Some but not enough No Not relevant to my situation
- 3.2 Did you sign a 'Student Project Participation Agreement' with the University regarding Intellectual Property?
Yes No
- If you did not sign an SPPA was this because
It was not relevant to my project I didn't know about it I chose not to sign

4. Thesis Writing

- 4.1 Was adequate assistance available to help you with your writing?
Yes Some but not enough No Not relevant to my situation
- 4.2 Was adequate assistance available to help you with statistics and data analysis?
Yes Some but not enough No Not relevant to my situation
- 4.3 Did the University Library's collection of books, journals and electronic databases meet most of your requirements?
Yes Some but not enough No Not relevant to my situation
- 4.4 Did you have sufficient access to computers/programs for your write-up?
Yes Some but not enough No Not relevant to my situation
- 4.5 Did you receive prompt and helpful feedback on your thesis drafts?
Yes Some but not enough No Not relevant to my situation
- 4.6 Did you use the services of a professional editor (other than your supervisors) in the preparation of your thesis?
Yes No

5. Development of Research Attributes

Which of the following skills/attributes do you think you have acquired as a result of your postgraduate experience at the University of Adelaide?	To a high degree	To a reasonable degree	I'm not sure	Not much	Not at all
5.1 Capacity to conduct independent research					
5.2 Ability to set and achieve goals and milestones					
5.3 Confidence in your ability to conduct original research as a result of your research training					
5.4 A deep knowledge of your field of study					
5.5 Capacity to apply theoretical knowledge to practical problems					
5.6 Ability to communicate clearly and concisely to various audiences (orally and in writing)					
5.7 Ability to demonstrate the relevance of your research to the broader community					

6. Publication

6.1 How many conference papers (including posters) have you given during your candidature? N = _____

6.2 How many papers have you submitted for publication during your candidature? N = _____

6.3 How many papers based on your thesis do you expect to submit for publication over the next three years? N = _____

6.4 Were you encouraged to give conference presentations and to publish papers?

- Yes
- Not sure
- No
- Not relevant to my situation

6.5 If you did not give many conference presentations or submit many papers, was the main reason:

- I gave priority to completing other work
- No encouragement from my School/Discipline group
- Financial constraints
- Unable to find an appropriate conference or publisher
- Other Please specify _____

7. Professional Development

Did you attend any of the following professional development activities related to your future professional, academic or research career? If so how would you rate them for usefulness?	I did not attend	Activity not relevant to my situation	I attended and found it useful	I attended but am not sure of its usefulness	I attended but did not find it useful
7.1 Intellectual property issues					
7.2 Communication/presentation skills training					
7.3 Commercialisation awareness					
7.4 Writing for publication					
7.5 Teaching workshops					
7.6 Grant application workshops					
7.7 Ethical issues in research					
7.8 Other (please specify)					

7.8 Which of the following activities would you have attended if they were on offer?

- Commercialisation awareness
- Project management
- Entrepreneurship
- Intellectual property
- Leadership training
- Team building
- Communication/presentation skills training
- Media training
- Grant application writing
- Writing for publication
- Teaching workshop
- Other Please specify _____

8. Career Opportunities

8.1 Was useful employment information available to you from the University?

- Yes Not sure No Not relevant to my situation

8.2 Did you take advantage of opportunities to develop an understanding of your future employment prospects?

- Yes Not sure No Not relevant to my situation

8.3 Which of these activities did you find most useful?

Please comment:

8.4 Do you already have, or do you intend to seek a post-doctoral position?

Yes

Not sure

No

Not relevant to my situation

Is this post-doctoral position:

In Australia

Overseas

Not sure

8.5 Do you already have existing employment or have employment guaranteed following completion of your postgraduate research?

Yes

No

If so, please describe that employment: _____

8.6 Following completion of your postgraduate research and post-doctoral work, where do you expect to find employment?	Short-term (next 3-4 years) (Please list three most likely fields in order)	Long-term (Please list three most likely fields in order)
University academic position		
University administrative position		
Industry research		
Government research		
Industry/government administration		
Other (please specify)		

9. Timely Completion

Which, if any, of the following factors extended the duration of your candidature, and how seriously did they affect you?					
	Not relevant	No impact	Some impact	Serious impact	Major impact
9.1 Personal/family matters					
9.2 Financial difficulties					
9.3 My scholarship ran out					
9.4 Demands of my current employment					
9.5 Administrative problems					
9.6 Inadequate resources or facilities					
9.7 Difficulties with supervision					
9.8 Unexpected problems with my research program					
9.9 I did not enjoy working as a research student					

9.10 Would you like to comment further on any factors extending the duration of your candidature?

9.11 What, if anything could the University, your Faculty or School, or your supervisor(s) have done to assist you to complete earlier?

9.12 If you changed supervisor during your candidature, what impact did this have on completion?

Major disruption Some disruption Little impact
Some improvement Major improvement

What more could the University, your Faculty or School, or your supervisor(s) have done to assist you through the process of change?

9.13 If you were half-time for most or all of your candidature, were you disadvantaged or advantaged by being so?

Not relevant to my situation Major disadvantage Some disadvantage Little impact
Some advantage Major advantage

What more could the University, your Faculty or School, or your supervisor(s) have done to assist you as a half-time candidate?

9.14 If you studied off-campus for most of your candidature, were you disadvantaged or advantaged by being so?

Not relevant to my situation Major disadvantage Some disadvantage Little impact
Some advantage Major advantage

What more could the University, your Faculty or School, or your supervisor(s) have done to assist you as an off-campus student?

9.15 Did you experience any disagreements or grievances during your candidature? Yes No

Was this grievance resolved to your satisfaction? Yes No

Comment if appropriate:

10. Overall Evaluation

	Very definitely	Definitely	Not sure	Probably not	Definitely not
10.1 If you had your time over, would you do a postgraduate research degree?					
10.2 Would you recommend postgraduate research training to other students?					
10.3 Would you recommend postgraduate research training at this University to other students?					
	Excellent	Good	Satisfactory	Poor	Very poor
10.4 Overall, my experience to date as a postgraduate research student at the University of Adelaide has been					
10.5 Overall, my experience to date as a postgraduate research student in my discipline/ School/ research group has been					

We would appreciate any comments you might like to make in response to the following questions:

10.6 What do you consider to be the principal strengths of your postgraduate research experience at the University of Adelaide? (Please identify and comment on up to three aspects of your experience that might cause you to recommend the University of Adelaide to a future postgraduate degree by research student)

10.7 What aspects of the postgraduate research experience at the University of Adelaide would you like to see changed, and what changes would you recommend?

10.8 Does this questionnaire give you the opportunity to comment on the whole of your experience as a University of Adelaide postgraduate student? If it doesn't, what changes to the questionnaire would you suggest?

Thank you for completing this questionnaire
Please return to the Adelaide Graduate Centre