

New approaches to research supervision

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As the doctorate diversifies and completion becomes an increasing issue (QAA 2011) and research and enquiry-based learning is introduced into the curriculum at all levels (Healey and Jenkins 2009), the pressure on supervisors increases.

Research into effective supervision has been carried out across universities in the UK and USA, these qualitative studies have been iteratively combined with a literature review to create a framework that enables academics to analyse and broaden their repertoire of supervisory skills. The framework is holistic in that it combines organisational, sociological, philosophical, psychological and emotional approaches. It offers a way of creating a dialogue between co-supervisors, evaluating research curricula, analysing problems that may arise with students and creating a supervisory development programme.

This seminar will introduce the framework and review its progress across Europe in the context of changes to doctoral provision and the research curriculum. It will give examples of how academics are using the framework to anticipate and deal with both common and complex issues. Finally it will raise questions about the wider applicability of this framework to curriculum development.

Dr Anne Lee is an independent academic developer who works with universities across the UK and mainland Europe. She was Senior Academic Developer at the University of Surrey, from where this work originated. She has written '*Successful Research Supervision*' published by Routledge, chaired a review of 'Preparing to Teach in Higher Education' for the UKCGE, and was a member of the UK Vitae Working Party that created the Researcher Development Framework. There is more about her work at www.drannelee.wordpress.com and she can be contacted at dr.anne.lee@which.net

The HEPP Research Seminars are organised by Robin Middlehurst, Professor of Higher Education at Kingston University. For further details or to RSVP, please e-mail Kate Dracup-Jones at kate.dracup-jones@kingston.ac.uk.