



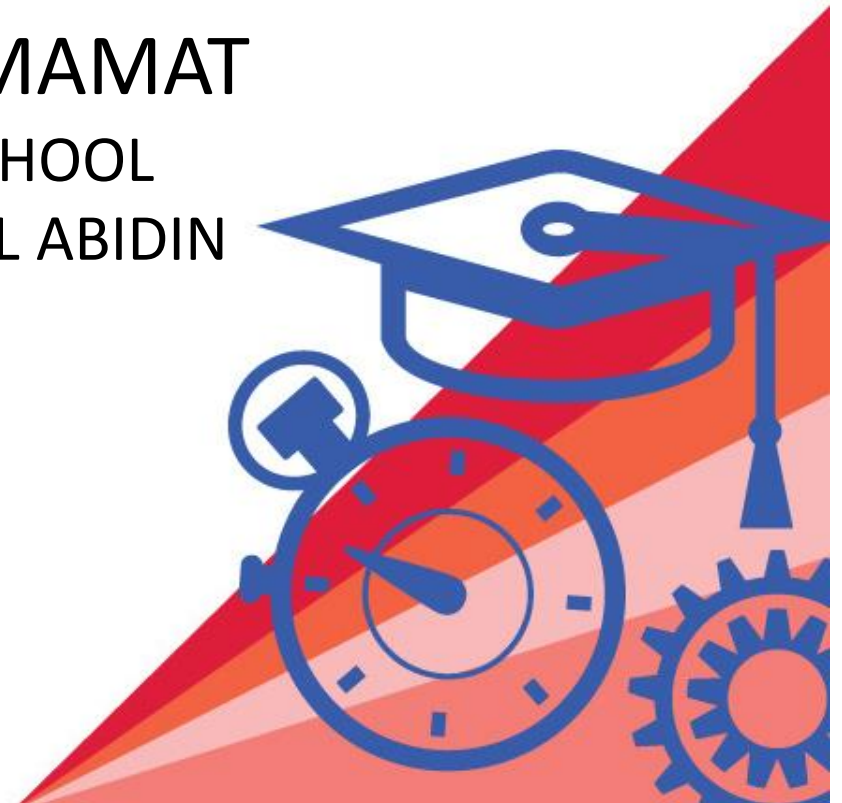
SOARING
UPWARDS
MALAYSIAN HIGHER EDUCATION



What It Takes to GOT

PROF DR MUSTAFA MAMAT
DEAN OF GRADUATE SCHOOL
UNIVERSITI SULTAN ZAINAL ABIDIN

PROGRAM
GOT & U




SO...

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO DRIVE STUDENTS TO GRADUATE ON TIME?

ie: 3 years according to sponsors, 42 months
(MyRA) and 48 months (*Critical Agenda Project*
(CAP)KPT)





*“Too often we are preoccupied
with the destination, that we
forget the journey”*

But then again, we must plan to reach

Two Specific issues

Completion times
and completion
percentages
[rates]

The quality of
graduate students
and their
programs

Holdaway et al. (1993) 'Organisational Issues in Graduate Studies.' (A paper presented at the Annual Conference of the Canadian Society for the Study of Higher Education, Ottawa, Ontario, 10 June 1993).



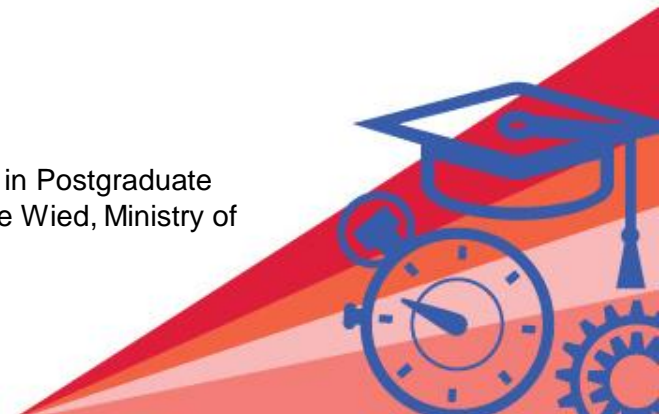
Educational authorities

- 1) Denmark,
- 2) Finland,
- 3) Norway and
- 4) Sweden.

For example,

Objectives for graduate training in the 1990s increasing the quality of training and decreasing the time required (Kyvick, 1991).

Kyvick, S. (1991): 'Graduate Research Training in the Nordic Countries.' Pages 93-116 in Postgraduate Research Training Today: Emerging Structures for a Changing Europe. (Edited by D. de Wied, Ministry of Education and Science, The Hague, Netherlands).



- In Australia, concern has also been expressed both about completion times and completion rates and about the quality of graduate students and their programs.
- A comprehensive study by the Commonwealth Department of Employment, Education and Training (1988) of the completion rates and average completion times of the 1979 cohort of Postgraduate Research Award holders found that:

	Completion times (Month)
Science	52.6
Arts, humanities and social sciences	56.8



- The study also found that the completion rates for science and engineering students holding either a Commonwealth or a University award were considerably higher than those for students from the arts, humanities and social Sciences which is:

Completion rates	Male (%)	Female (%)
Science and engineering	77	60
Arts, humanities and social sciences	48	41



The Higher Education Council (1990) has also recommended that institutions continue to develop action plans to review their higher degree studies programs and particularly to monitor the progress of academic organisational units (faculties, departments etc) with respect to:

- improving supervision and supervisory arrangements, including the publication of institutional policies and examples of good practice;
- examining student research proposals before they begin their programs of study or, where this provision is inappropriate, to have a provisional enrolment period until the research proposal is examined;
- initiatives to increase numbers of higher degree graduates in national priority areas; and
- co-operative initiatives with other institutions, industry and commerce/government/professional or community associations for mutual benefit through formal and informal links.



TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION, 2014

.....MALAYSIAN GOVT
CHANGED ITS TARGET FROM
100,000 TO 60,000 PhD IN
2023.

..... MyBRAIN 15
(LAUNCHED IN 2008) AIMS
AT CREATING 60,000 PhDs
THROUGH SCHOLARSHIPS
FOR MASTERS AND
DOCTORAL LEVEL

THE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE
IS TO INCREASE THE
ENROLLMENT OF
POSTGRADUATE STUDENT

(ELSE, H. (2014) MALAYSIA CHANGES
TARGETS FOR POSTGRADUATES)

CUTHBERT AND MOLLARIN NEWBAUER AND GHAZALI (2015)

KEY DRIVER TO
POLITICALLY DRIVE
PhD IS THE
KNOWLEDGE
ECONOMY (AMONG
OTHER FACTORS)
THIS INCLUDES EUROPE,
UK, AFRICA, LATIN
AMERICA ,AUSTRALIA,
ASIA AND ASIA-PACIFIC
REGION (KOREA,
MALAYSIA,VIETNAM,
INDONESIA AND
PHILIPPINES)



11th MALAYSIA PLAN (2016-2020)

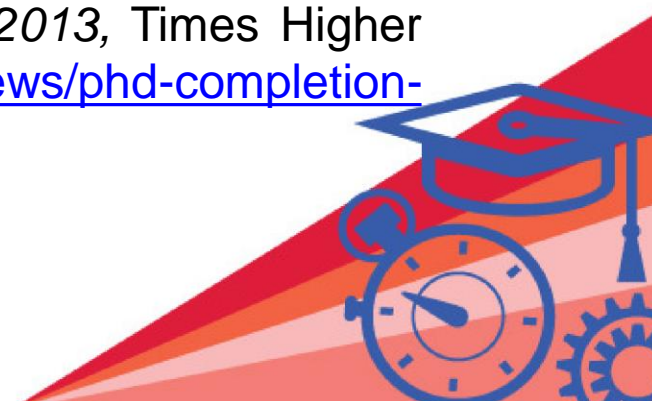
- TO PRODUCE TALENT THAT IS EQUIPPED WITH RELEVANT SKILLS INCLUDING SOFT SKILLS
- THE COUNTRY IS MOVING FROM LABOUR-INTENSIVE TO INNOVATION-BASED ECONOMY
- THIS IS SUPPORTED BY MyBRAIN 15 FOR POSTGRADUATE STUDENTS TO ACHIEVE THE 60,000 PhD TARGET



IN ENGLAND, THE PREDICTED PERCENTAGE OF FULL-TIME DOCTORATES THAT WILL OBTAIN A DEGREE WITHIN SEVEN YEARS



(A REPORT BY ENGLAND'S FUNDING COUNCIL PUBLISHED ON JULY 26 in JUMP,P.(July 26, 2013). *PhD completion rates,2013*, Times Higher Education, <https://www.timeshighereducation.com/news/phd-completion-rates-2013/2006040.article>



IMPLICATIONS ON NON-COMPLETION

Expensive:
lecturer-
student ratio

Investment
of time by
both parties

Investment
of intellectual
resources

Doctoral
non-
completion

Adapted from:
<http://cgsnet.org/cgs-occasional-paper-series/university-georgia/chapter-1>



IMPLICATIONS ON COMPLETION

Represents
the university

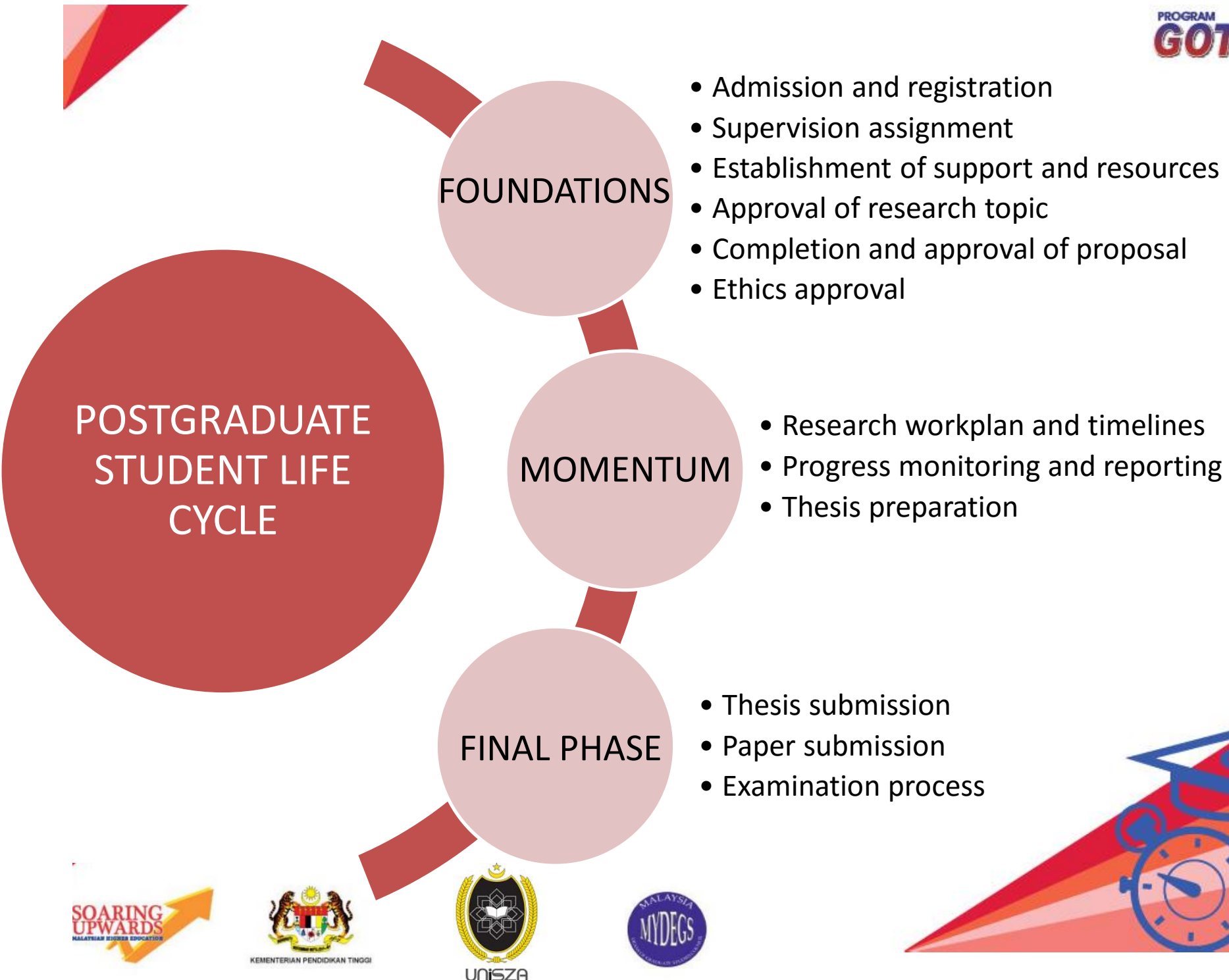
ROI on taxpayers
through services
provided/awards
achieved

Achievements
reflecting the
university

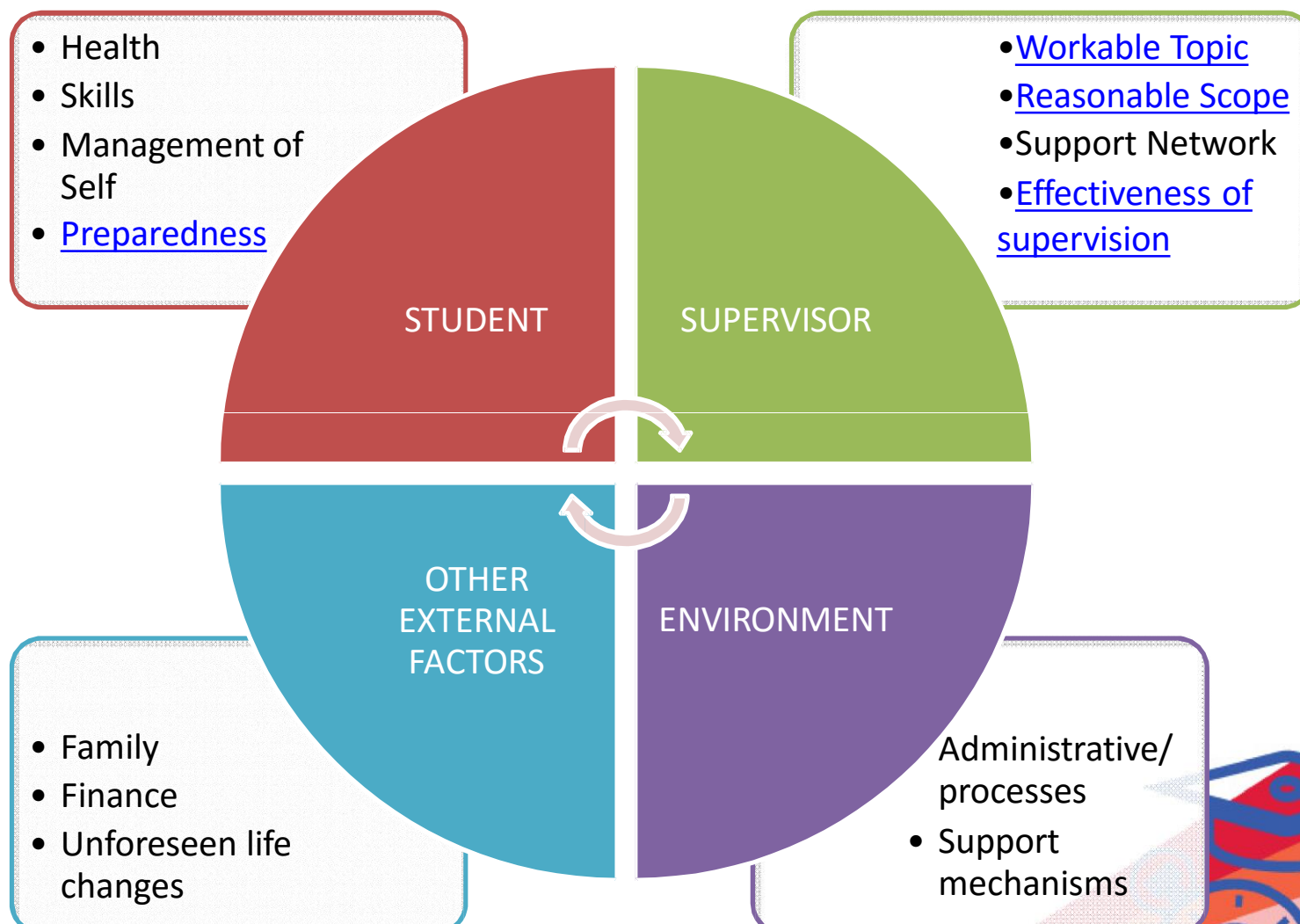
Doctoral
completion

Adapted from:
<http://cgsnet.org/cgs-occasional-paper-series/university-georgia/chapter-1>





Factors affecting GOT



Factors Affecting GOT

Self

- The intention (niat)
- Lack sustenance of motivation
- Wavered interest
- Distractions
- Lack diligence
- Rigour & Vigour

Skills

- Management of time and resources
- Ability to write scholarly
- Ability to synthesize
- Initial planning

Supervision



"I'm coordinating five different R&D projects, but SURE, I can spare a minute."

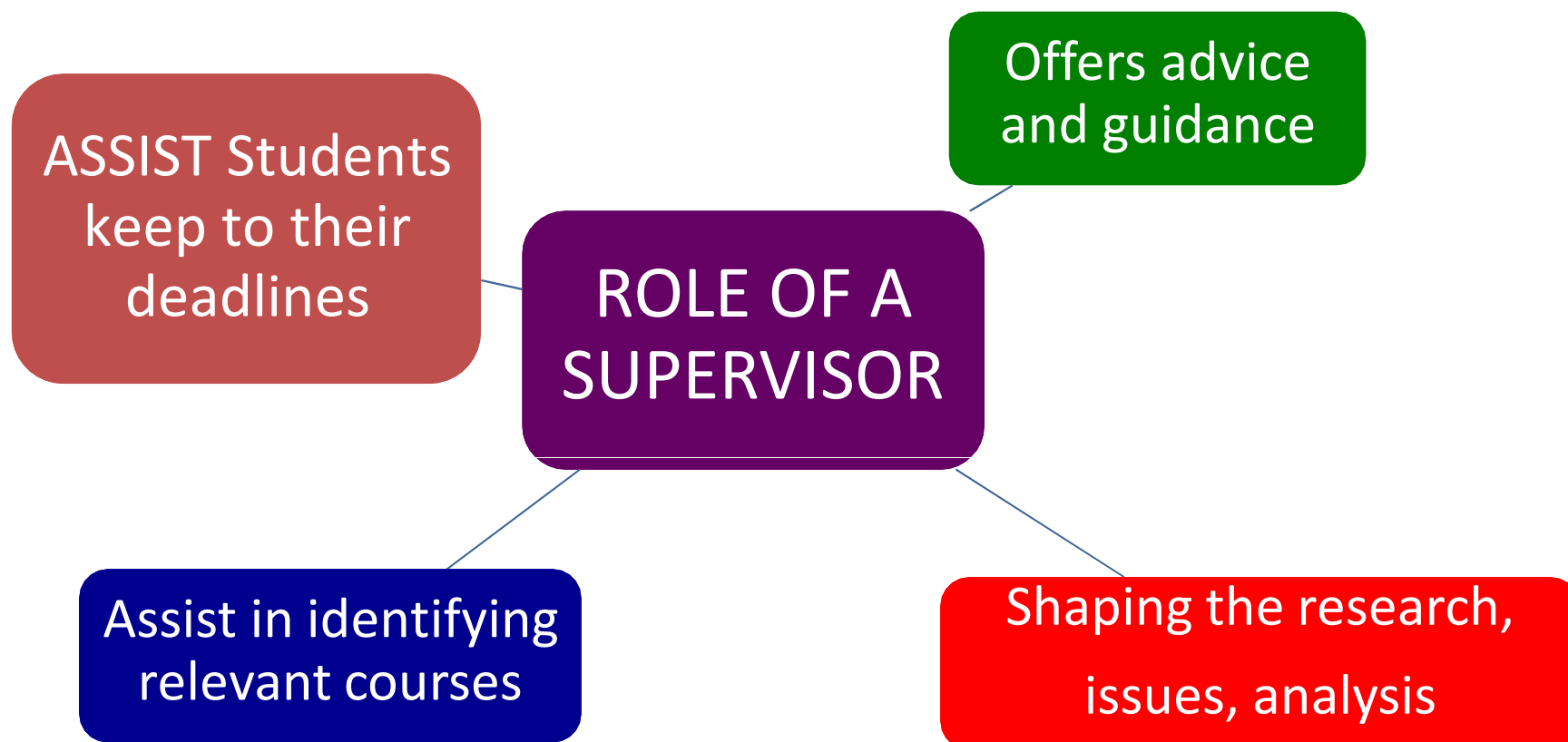
<https://anniebruton.files.wordpress.com/2013/09/supervisor.jpg>



Personal Vigour

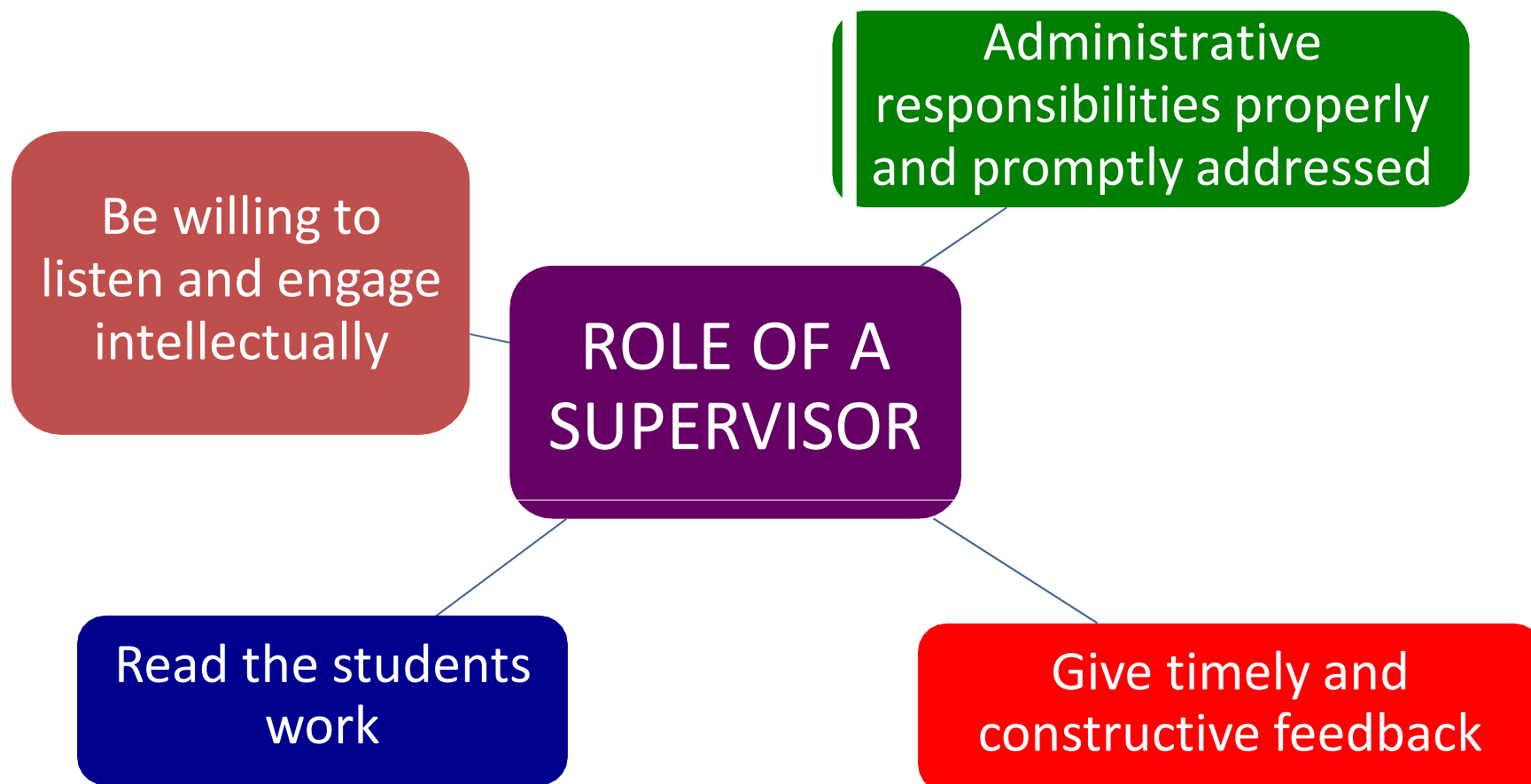
- Graduating on Time shows that the learner is structured, focused, and has the ability to self regulate ; also to regulate his or her motivation
 - Self consequating
 - Interest enhancement
 - Mastery self talk
 - Performance self talk
 - Environmental control – environmental restructuring when necessary





<https://www.kcl.ac.uk/artshums/depts/cmci/study/handbook/programmes/pgs/supervision.aspx>



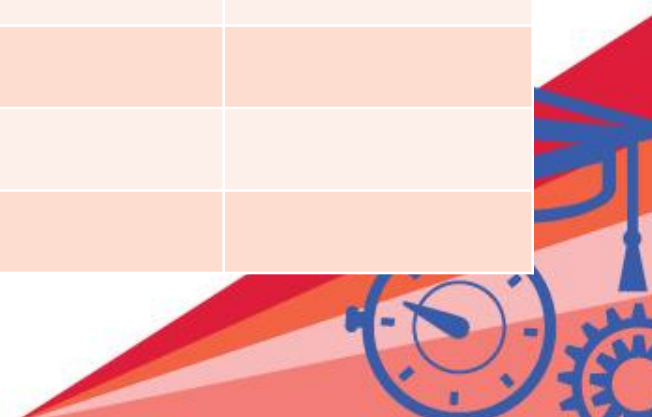


<https://www.findaphd.com/advice/doing/you-and-your-phd-supervisor.aspx>



SUMMARY CHECKLIST OF SUPERVISORY TASKS

STEPS IN THE PROCESS	SUPERVISORY COMMENT RE SPECIFIC TASKS AND ADHERENCE TO TIMELINE	SIGN-OFF DATE
Admission and registration		
Supervision assignment		
Providing support and resources		
Approval of research topic		
Completion and approval of research proposal		
Ethics approval		
Research workplan and time lines		
Progress monitoring and reporting		
Thesis preparation		
Thesis submission		
Paper submission		
Examination process		
Preservation and retention of research data		



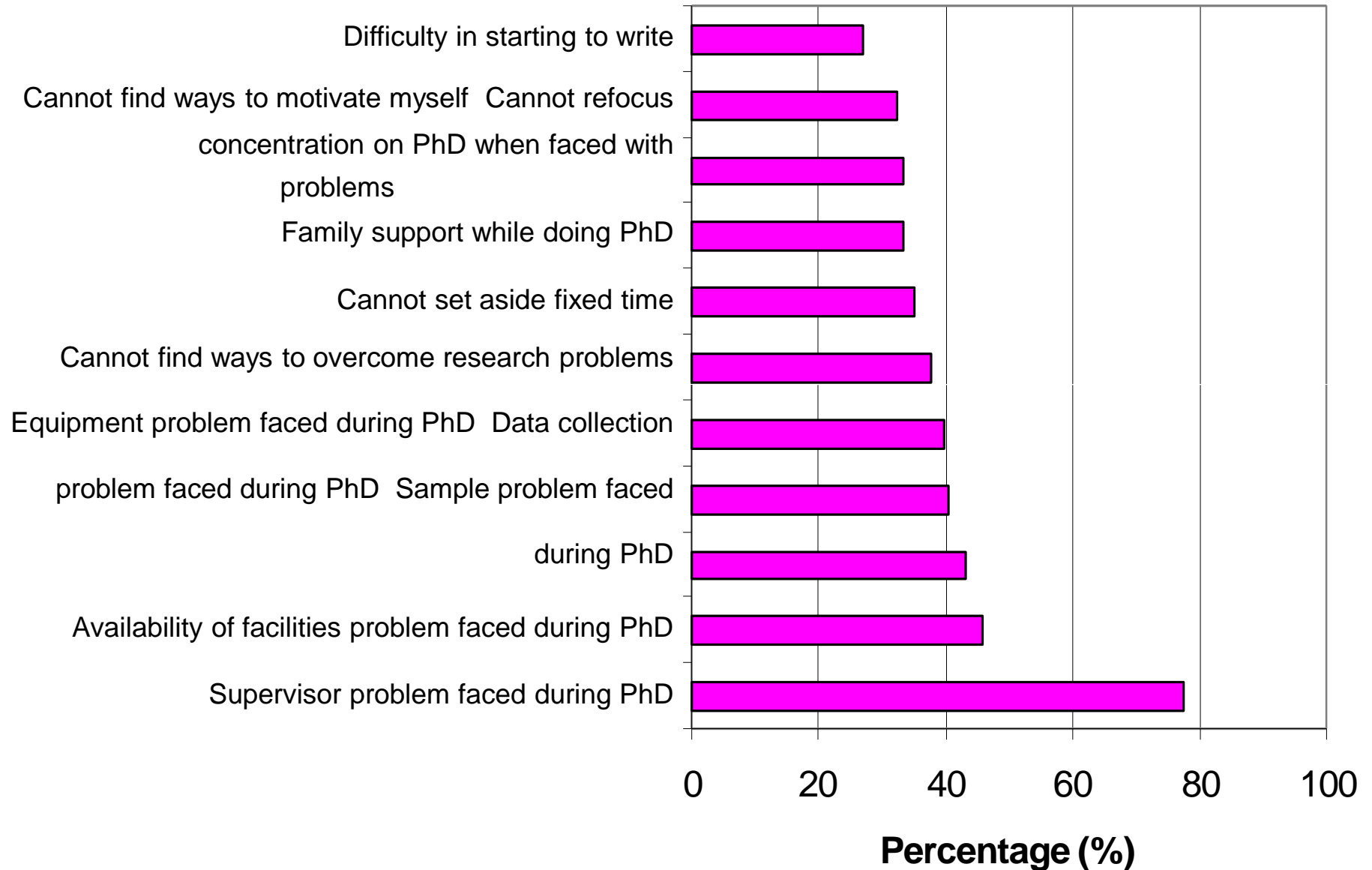
GoT : Issues and Challenges



Many are undocumented and the pile is increasing...

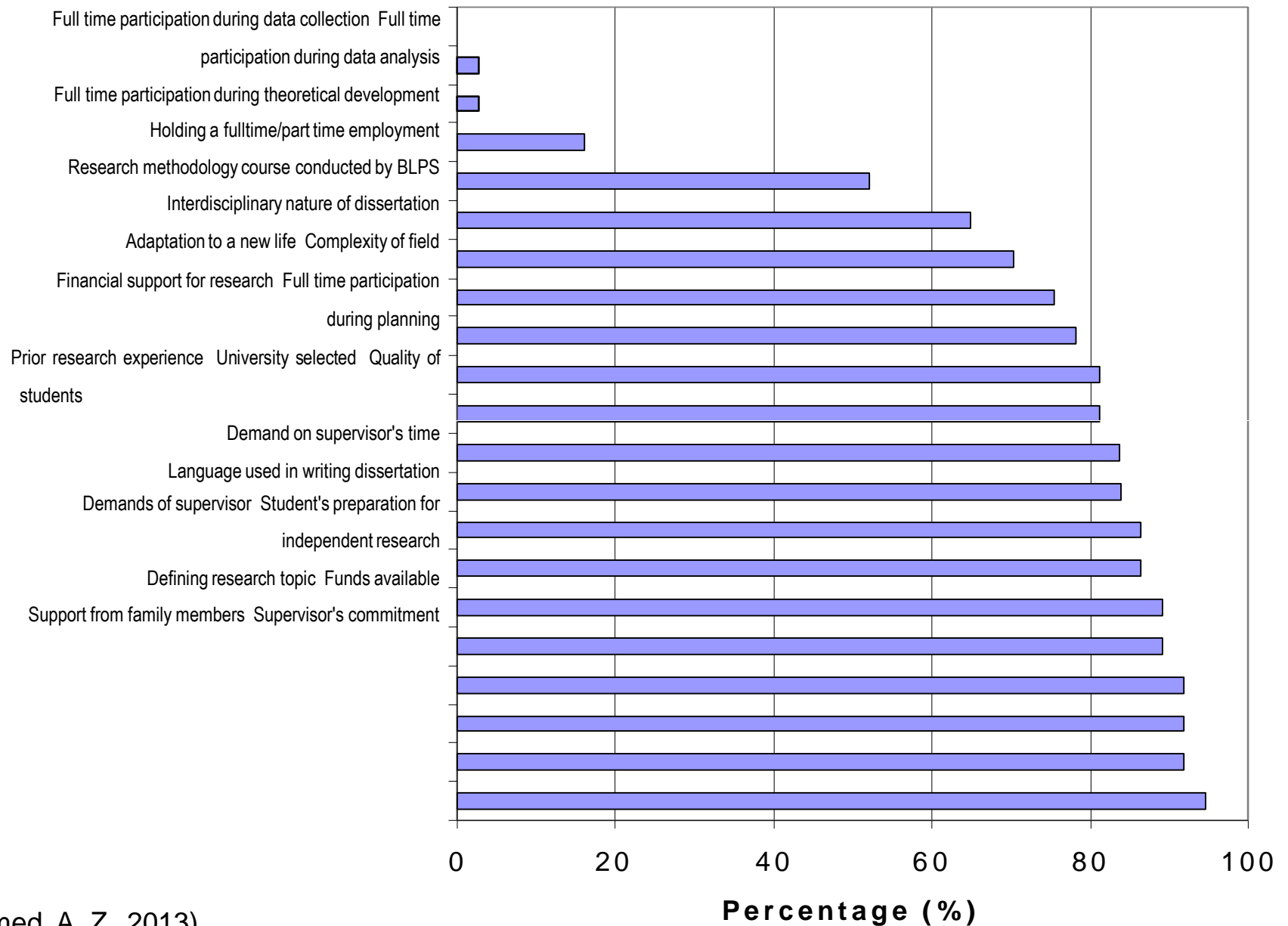


Problems Faced by PhD Candidate



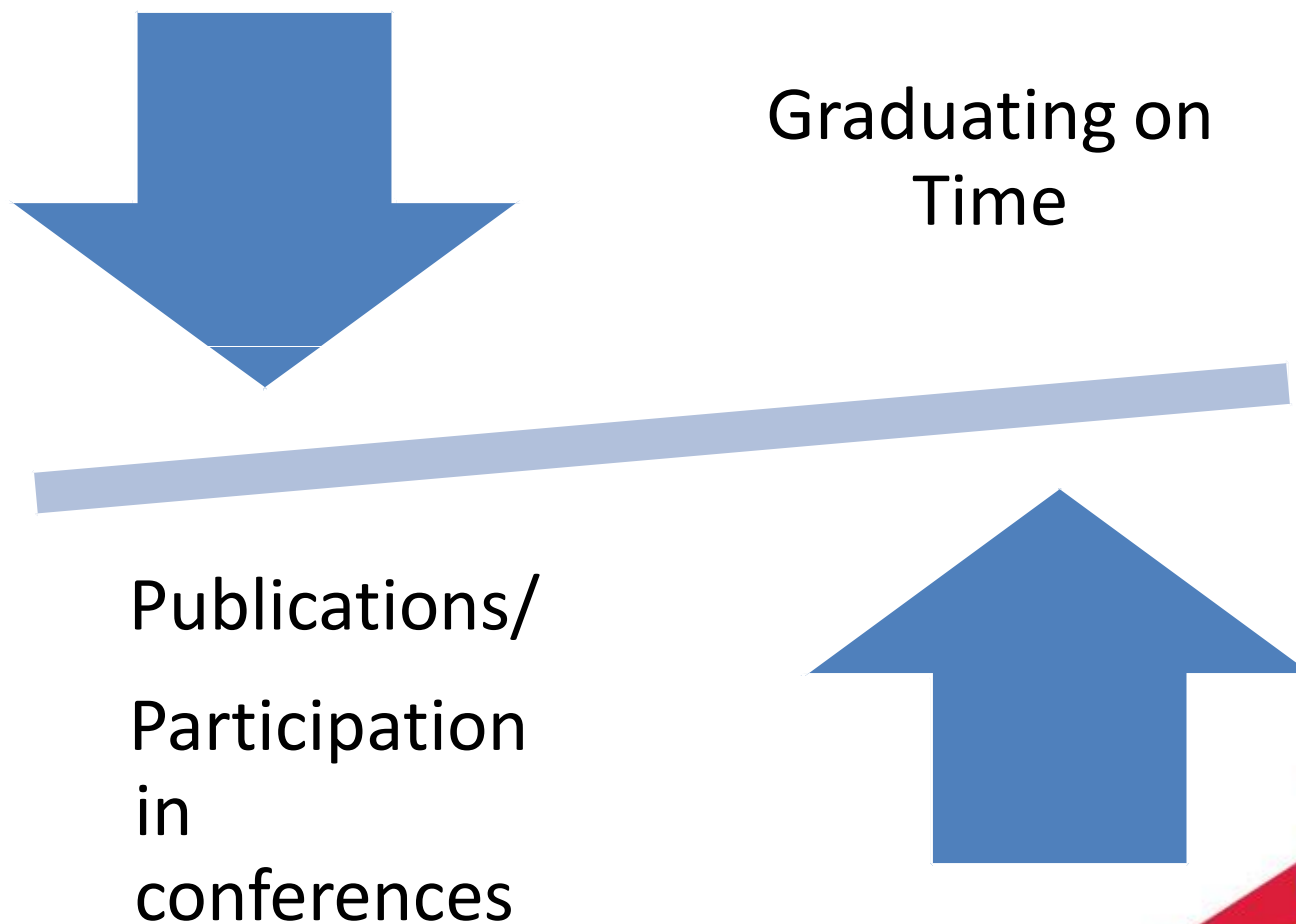
(Ahmed, A. Z., 2013)

Factors Affecting Candidates' Success



(Ahmed, A. Z., 2013)

Balancing Time



Support Mechanism

- Tracking Progress
 - Study Plans/GOT schedule
 - Academic Maps
- Support
 - Financial Aids
 - Academic Advising
 - Learning resources
- Data-driven warnings
 - Looking at the data – point of failure, ‘killer courses’,
 - Identify off-track students as early as possible
- Policy and Regulations
 - Easily accessed info
 - Well understood academic regulations
- Process
 - Clear academic process





THANK YOU



Criteria for Evaluating Research Problems

The general criteria must include finding answer to the following questions, namely:

- 1) is the problem feasible?
- 2) is the problem researchable?
- 3) is the problem worthwhile?

(Howard and Sharp, 1983)



Is the Problem Feasible?

- a) Availability of data and information
- b) Accessibility of data and information
- c) Is the time available
- d) Is the facility required adequate
- e) Is the cost satisfactory
- f) Is the risk involved manageable



Is the Problem Researchable?

Criteria relate to the possibility of conducting research on the problem situation selected include the checking on whether the problem situation is:

- a) Clearly specified
- b) Opportunity to pursue a particular research design
- c) Can be subjected to scientific method of inquiry
- d) Clearly understood by the researcher
- e) Manageable and not too large
- f) Can the problem situation be measured and measurement can be conducted.
- g) Can the research problem be solved by the researcher.



Is the Problem worthwhile?

Factors that need to be considered whether the problem situation is worthwhile to solve include:

- a) Do the research have some economic value
- b) Do the results advanced or enhanced knowledge
- c) Is the research unique
- d) Will the research benefit or of interest to other
- e) Will the results assist in making a decision



Accept responsibility
for your actions.

Be accountable for
your results.

Take ownership of your
mistakes.

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When applying...

Right INTENTION

Right MINDSET

Right ATTITUDE

Right READINESS

