

Welcome to
**GRAD-YOUR-
LUNCH**

STARTER TOPIC |
**SUPERVISORY
AND COMMITTEE
RELATIONSHIPS**

UBC Forestry

Grad Student Services

GRAD-YOUR-LUNCH!



THE UNIVERSITY OF BRITISH COLUMBIA

Faculty of Forestry

AGENDA | SUPERVISOR + COMMITTEES

- 1. Committee Members** | [LINK](#) — PG 21 Masters / PG 29 Doctoral
- 2. Supervisors** | Working relationship
- 3. Expectation Worksheet** | Starting the conversation
- 4. Potential Challenges** | What do I do?
- 5. Where do I go for help?**



WHO CAN BE ON MY COMMITTEE?

PRACTICAL TIPS + GUIDANCE

FRST GRADBOOK | PG 21 + 29

<https://forestry.ubc.ca/wp-content/uploads/Forestry-Gradbook.pdf>

- **at least 3 members** – including your supervisor (2 must be G+PS Members – or at least 50% if committee 4+)
- Non G+PS members can be from another academic institution or from a non-academic organization, if they have the appropriate background to fully participate in all committee responsibilities
- Non G+PS members must be approved by the FRST G+PS AD (Shannon Hagerman) for Master's level, and G+PS for Doctoral level

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- **WHO IS A G+PS MEMBER?** | A UBC tenured or tenure track faculty member holding rank of Assistant Prof., Associate Prof., or full Professor
 - **WHO IS NOT A G+PS MEMBER?** | Adjunct, clinical, honorary, partner, visiting, professors of teaching, senior instructors, lecturers, acting assistant profs., UBC-O faculty (even if tenure track) | **CAN BE ON YOUR COMMITTEE WITH APPROVAL**



SUPERVISORS Working Relationship

PRACTICAL TIPS + GUIDANCE

G+PS WEBSITE | <https://www.grad.ubc.ca/handbook-graduate-supervision/working-relationship>

- **Communication, communication, communication!**
- The best way to encourage an effective relationship with your supervisor is to define your roles and expectations clearly and have an effective plan for progress
- How do you expect this relationship play out from one week to the next? Does it have a natural flow that allows maximum productivity between student and supervisor? **Do you expect that:**
 - there will be open communication between graduate student and supervisor
 - the relationship will be mutually satisfying
 - you will not have to compromise for the benefit of your supervisor
 - you will both benefit from the relationship



PRACTICAL TIPS + GUIDANCE

WORKSHEET | https://www.grad.ubc.ca/sites/default/files/doc/page/supervision_expectations.docx

It is never too late to use this resource (even if years into your program)!

Discussion points:

- As your supervisor, you can expect me to...
- As your student, you can expect me to...

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- **EDIT – REVISE - CUSTOMIZE** | use the worksheet as a starting point for discussion (edit, revise and customize in discussion with your supervisor)

STUDENT / SUPERVISOR EXPECTATIONS - WORKSHEET



What if things go sideways? Potential challenges

PRACTICAL TIPS + GUIDANCE | [LINK](#)

Some potential challenges

While you may aspire to an ideal relationship with your graduate student or supervisor, realistically it should lie somewhere in between your ideal and an ineffective working relationship.

Remember, there are policies regarding minimum expectations of graduate students and supervisors. It's realistic to expect that challenges will come up in the course of your working relationship. Here are a few common challenges and some suggested solutions:

- It's getting too personal
- There's no time
- Personal and life stress
- Funding issues

... but where do I go from here?



Where do I go for help?

PRACTICAL TIPS + GUIDANCE | [LINK](#)

There are many supports and resources for students (and faculty) – and it is important to know where to find them!

- Read! Review the FRST Grad Portal, FRST GradBook and G+PS links for helpful links
- Start the conversation with your supervisor
- If you don't feel comfortable discussing with your supervisor – please come to our office (the door is always open) – email julie.morey@ubc.ca

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- all discussions are held in confidence and your supervisor is not notified or informed without your consent
 - Mediated conversations can be arranged if the situation requires
 - We realize this topic touches on many areas; communication, finance, mental health – we can assist in guiding you through and providing resources



PRACTICAL TIPS + GUIDANCE | [LINK](#)

- PRACTICAL TIPS | WORKING RELATIONSHIP

<https://www.grad.ubc.ca/handbook-graduate-supervision/working-relationship> [click on 'Handbook of Graduate Supervision' menu]



- **The Working Relationship** ^
- Work Expectations >
- Avoiding Common Problems >
- Time Management >
- Some Potential Challenges >
- Problem Resolution >
- Ending the Relationship >
- The Graduate Thesis v
- Research Ethics: A Guide for Graduate Students v

Where do I go
for help?



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**THANK YOU – TIME FOR QUESTIONS... or
other topics of interest!**

<https://forestry.ubc.ca/programs/graduate/>

FIND US ON:

