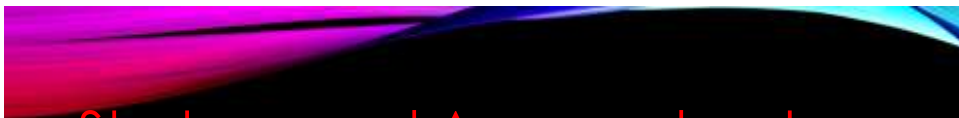




# SUPERVISION

**ZAMBERI JAMALUDIN**  
**FAKULTI KEJURUTERAAN PEMBUATAN**  
26 April 2018



## Strategy and Approaches to be a Good Supervisor

- What are characteristics of a good supervisor?
- Influence of supervisee ?
- What tools / skills are required?
- Challenges in supervision.



## GOOD SUPERVISION: ANALYTICAL SKILL

- Analytical ability – foreseeing the direction of research
- Analytical ability – data analysis, critical review



## GOOD SUPERVISION: COMMUNICATION SKILL

- Communication skills – avoiding conflicts
- Writing skills (planning, doing and revising)
  - proposal writing (?)
    - guidance
  - paper writing (?)
    - review process, organization of content, authorship
  - thesis writing (?)
    - review process, organization of content



## GOOD SUPERVISION: COMMUNICATION SKILL

Concerns about feedbacks:

- Feedback is not well directed
- Miscommunication
- Too little feedback
- Too much negative feedback
- Feedback only at the surface level
- Conflicting feedback from supervisory committee



## GOOD SUPERVISION: COMMUNICATION SKILL

Should the supervisor does all  
the editing?



In some universities, supervisors are burnt out because of the massive amount of editing they do. While they justify that this is done in the best interests of the candidates, one has to realize that this practice creates two serious problems. First, because supervisors become so forensic about surface features of language, they tend to forget the bigger picture of the thesis. Second, supervisors cannot guide and direct candidates forever



GOOD SUPERVISION:  
COMMUNICATION SKILL

**How to encourage supervisee to write?**

**Fear of being judges and rejection**



## VIVA SESSION

**When to say that the thesis is complete?**



## VIVA SESSION

**Selections of Internal and External Examiners?**



## VIVA SESSION

- Experience in examining
- Expertise
- Reputation
- Publications



## VIVA SESSION

How to best prepare supervisee  
for viva?

**Students usually become panicky when they are called for the viva. The supervisors play a crucial role in ensuring that the students remain calm and are emotionally stable.**



## DEVELOPING A VIBRANT RESEARCH CULTURE

**Culture refers to an environment in which new supervisees learn the rule of the game.**

**This culture includes understanding the research orientation of the discipline.**

**Doing a thesis or research work can be a lonely journey. Therefore, students should be encouraged to meet often and engage themselves in academic and social activities with their peers.**



## MEASURING SUCCESS

**How do you measure success?**

**As a supervisor or supervisee**



## MEASURING SUCCESS

**How do you measure success?**

**As a supervisor or supervisee**



## TRAITS OF GOOD SUPERVISOR / SUPERVISION

- cordial relationships with the supervisors.
- supervisors were supportive, friendly, and helpful and went beyond their expectations to make them feel comfortable
- supervisors had regular meetings, were always available via emails or short phone messages, were good listeners and were always pleasant.





## TRAITS OF GOOD SUPERVISOR / SUPERVISION

However...some are:

- disrespectful, unapproachable, and unfriendly and at times even throwing tantrums
- “I have a full time job and three children – to my supervisor, all these are invisible!”
- “I feel very scared to come and see my supervisor”
- “He [supervisor] makes me feel so small”.



## CHALLENGES

- supervisors are also perceived as too busy to be effective in their roles as supervisors.
- supervisors may be extensively committed to administrative duties and teaching
- lack experience in research and postgraduate supervision
- supervisors themselves failed to keep abreast of the latest developments in a particular field,
- conflicting views



- **Taking advantage of supervisee**
- **Ownership**
- **Miscommunication / Arguments**
- **Changing Supervisors**
- **Withdrawal**