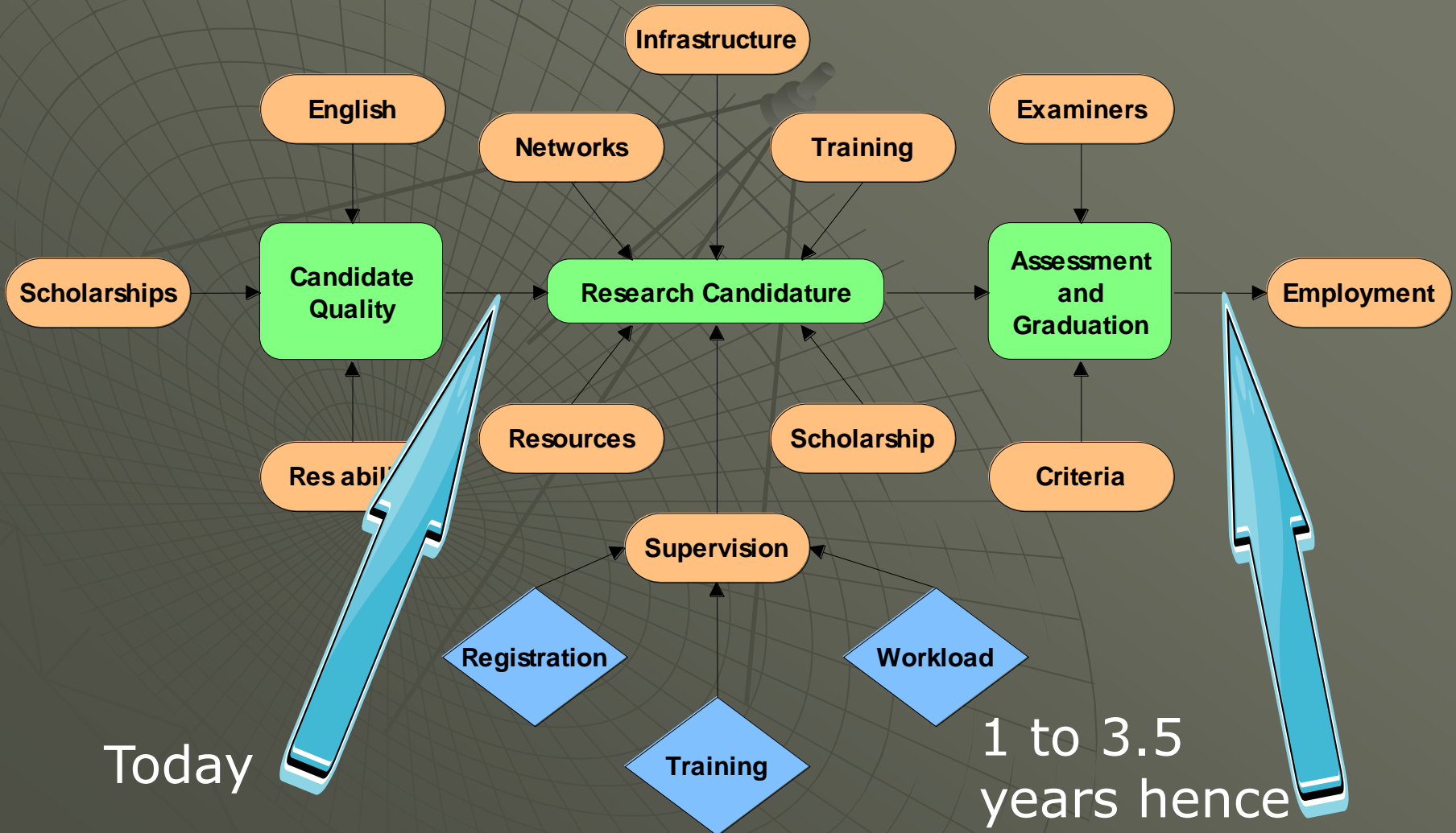




Your Research Student Journey at USQ

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PVC Research Training

Your Research Higher Degree Journey



Some aspects of your journey

- ◆ USQ evaluating your ability to undertake research - **you** enrolling
- ◆ USQ (your Faculty) forming **your** supervision team.
- ◆ USQ and your Faculty/Schools providing **your** induction programs.
- ◆ **You** participating in a comprehensive research training program.
- ◆ USQ and your Faculty providing **you** with adequate infrastructure and resources.
- ◆ **You** and your team writing learned papers and you writing your thesis
- ◆ External assessment of **your** thesis - graduation and employment.

The induction program

- ◆ The induction program spans many months - not several hours - you are starting today.
- ◆ As well as the usual mechanical processes - a learning-research plan should also be developed.
- ◆ Your supervision team may need to review whether you have the right people in place at the end of the induction phase.
- ◆ Remember that a comprehensive and high quality induction process pays dividends in the long term.
- ◆ Your induction program should be continually reviewed and a record kept.

The research training program

- ◆ USQ has its 2011 training/PD program in place for you to use (ORHD).
- ◆ Some modules may be mandatory during your first year - research methods/IP/ethics? - this will be determined by USQ, your Faculty and supervisors.
- ◆ What else could you do in the training framework? Statistics, writing skills, project management - determined by you and your supervisors.
- ◆ We may monitor, record and certify to allow you to demonstrate your attainment of postgraduate competencies.

Resources and infrastructure

- ◆ USQ has *"minimum standards of facilities and resources for on-campus research students who are enrolled on a full-time basis"*.
- ◆ Details of the policy are available at: www.usq.edu.au/resources/72.pdf
- ◆ It covers things such as photocopying, IT support, tea room, wash room, library services, work area, telephone email, internet access, stationery
- ◆ If in doubt talk to your supervisors or the ORHD - do not suffer in silence.

Supervision

- ◆ USQ will ensure that you have the right supervision team in place to help you through your journey.
- ◆ You may have a supervisor, co-supervisors, research and/or external supervisors.
- ◆ All supervisors will normally be research active staff and be "registered".
- ◆ As in most partnerships there will be times when you and your supervisors disagree. Resolve the issues and move on.
- ◆ Your team may change over your candidature - this is not unusual.

Your changing role

- ◆ The role of your supervisory team will change as your candidature proceeds.
- ◆ At the start you will very likely depend heavily on your supervisory team - you will be "learning" - it may even be a bit boring - lots of reading.
- ◆ You should write some basic papers as you start to know what you are doing - it should be very interesting by then.
- ◆ By the time you write up and submit your thesis you should have published widely and be a preeminent researcher in your field.
- ◆ Your supervisors should be colleagues and peers by the end of your journey at USQ.

Publishing during your thesis

- ◆ Publishing learned articles during your candidature is very important in most disciplines as it helps demonstrate your knowledge.
- ◆ You may receive some support from your Faculty to attend quality conferences - if you are publishing good work.
- ◆ It is also important to publish in good journals to obtain pre-examination peer review of your work and establish your "reputation".
- ◆ Published work can also form substantial parts of "chapters" within your thesis and may become appendices.

Your candidature environment

- ◆ USQ aims to provide you with a research culture, climate and community that supports your research journey.
- ◆ The environment encompasses your supervision team, resources and infrastructure, training and professional development.
- ◆ Make sure that you are aware of what is available and use them to optimise your studies at USQ.
- ◆ But - it also includes **your** own engagement with other researchers and the wider USQ community.



Most important – enjoy **your**
candidature and time at USQ.

Work hard, develop **your**
networks and take advantage
of all there is to offer.