

RESEARCH STATEMENT

Research Report for an External Body

Citation: Hamilton, J., Carson, S. J., & Ellison, E. R. (2013). *12 principles for the effective supervision of creative practice higher research degrees, dispatches from the field*. Sydney, NSW: Office for Learning and Teaching. Retrieved from <http://supervisioncreativeartsphd.net/wp-content/uploads/2013/12/12-Principles-for-Effective-Supervision.pdf>

Description

12 principles for the effective supervision of creative practice higher research degrees is an outcome of an Office of Learning and Teaching seed grant awarded in 2012. The overall project was led by Professor Jillian Hamilton and Associate Professor Susan Carson, with Project Manager/Research Assistant Elizabeth Ellison, and was initiated to develop a cooperative approach to establishing an understanding of the contextual frameworks of the emergent field of creative practice higher degrees by research (HDRs); capturing early insights of administrators and supervisors; gathering exemplars of good practices; and establishing an in-common understanding of effective approaches to supervision. This component is a publication designed to showcase 12 principles for the supervision of creative practice HDRs as established through the project's interviews with both experienced and emerging supervisors. The project had five partner institutions: Queensland University of Technology, The University of Melbourne, Auckland University of Technology, University of New South Wales and University of Western Sydney.

Research Background

The booklet is a key component of the project's examination of supervision practices in the still establishing field of creative practice theses. Ultimately, the project developed a final report (2014), a website, and a national symposium that invited case studies and exemplars from over ninety participants from five universities from Australia and New Zealand.

Research Contribution

The report used a mixed-methods approach, including an establishing literature review, semi-structured interviews with both emerging or experienced supervisors, and an analysis of existing supervisor resources. The *12 principles* booklet was primarily based on the semi-structured interviews. This booklet is a key resource for supervision of creative practice HDRs as there is minimal specific support for this type of supervision. Final recommendations of the overall project suggest a need for ongoing analysis of the field of supervision in the creative arts, and the project has led to the application of further work in this field by the project team. The final report generated a number of recommendations for

the higher education sector in the emerging field of creative practice postgraduate education, and continues to be cited.

Research Significance

As a direct result of the success of this project, the project team was awarded a commissioned project *Good Practice Report: postgraduate research and coursework degrees*. The final report, published in late 2014, showcases the significance of the *Building Distributed Leadership* report in its overview of existing OLT projects in the field of postgraduate education. The 12 principles have been included in a number of publications in the field, such as *Developing Research Writing: A Handbook for Supervisors and Advisors* (Carter & Laurs 2017) and *A Handbook for Doctoral Supervisors* (Taylor, Kiley & Humphrey 2017).

Author: Dr Liz Ellison

Date: March 2018

ACQUIRE - Central Queensland University Institutional Repository <http://acquire.cqu.edu.au>