Graduate Student and Supervisor Expectations, Dept. of Biological Sciences, SFU

Revised Summer 2012

What should the grad student expect of their supervisor?	**What should the supervisor expect of their grad student?**
- Help selecting a suitable, manageable research topic that can be completed within the normal timeframe of the degree. - Assistance with setting milestones for completion of the degree. Clarity regarding expectations of research. - Knowledge of current graduate program requirements, deadlines, sources of funding, etc. - Open discussions about the student's research project on a regular basis (at least monthly). - Constructive feedback on writing in a timely fashion (e.g., 1-2 weeks). - Adequate research funding, salary at set departmental level, and funding to attend conferences when possible. - Transparency re. source of funds and expectations for finding own funding. - Respect for other demands on the student's time (e.g., teaching duties, work-life balance issues like family, vacation) - Respectful interactions. - Advice on future career options; willingness to write letters of support for scholarships, fellowships, jobs, etc. - Provision of a safe and healthy working environment.	- Responsibility for progress toward the degree, including setting milestones and meeting deadlines. - A commitment to gaining background knowledge and skills needed to pursue research successfully. Focused work on the research project. - An awareness of program requirements, deadlines, courses, etc. - Regular updates about research progress. - Attendance and presentation at conferences and workshops where possible. Publication of results. - Attempts to obtain scholarships (and/or research funding where applicable) - To be informed about student's academic life (course grades, journal club participation, TAships, etc.) and absences. - Independence, but requests for help when needed. - Recognition of the other demands on the supervisor's time. - Openness to constructive advice, criticism. - Frugal use of resources, responsible and safe use of work space, and general respect for others in the lab. - That when degree requirements have been met, supervisor has secure access to data.