

Session 8

MILESTONES: AN INTEGRATED APPROACH TO MANAGING RESEARCH CANDIDATURE

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The Australian Qualifications Framework (2011) lists the aim of a Research Higher Degree candidate as being the development of an original contribution of knowledge to a particular academic discipline within three to four years of study. This paper outlines how The University of Queensland aims to achieve this outcome through its Milestone Policy. In addition to this, the paper will also discuss how the policy supports students, staff and the institution by combining robust pedagogical theory with innovative business processes whilst adhering to government reporting and policy requirements. The discussion is informed by a recent review of School and Institute milestone practices, including interviews with relevant stakeholders. The Milestone Policy has enhanced student learning opportunities, provided staff with a framework to assess student progress and proven itself as an effective risk management and compliance tool.

Presenters Biography

Mark Engelmann has over 6 years' experience working at the University of Queensland. He has worked in student administration, marketing and communications and more general roles across a number of faculties and schools. Currently working in The Graduate School as the manager of the Candidature Team, Mark is responsible for ensuring that students, staff and enrolling units operate within the bounds of UQ's milestone policy. Mark also manages student grievances and complaints as well as ensuring his team maintains a quick turnaround on student enrolment changes.