

“Work in Progress”-seminar

The Rules for the PhD Programme at the Graduate School, Arts at Aarhus University, state as follows (on page 9):

In connection with the semi-annual evaluation 12 months before the end of the period of enrolment on the PhD programme, a dissertation seminar will be arranged at which the PhD student must present an outline of the planned dissertation, including selected written examples of the basic hypotheses, theories and methods. The outline will be critically discussed among the PhD student, principal supervisor, and expert senior researchers. The seminar may be arranged at the department or in connection with an event at a Danish or a foreign institution. The seminar may form part of the background for the semi-annual evaluation.

At DPU, this is called a WIP seminar (“Work in Progress”). The seminar is mandatory and the PHD student is responsible for the practical arrangements (see below). It is furthermore expected that the PHD student has the possibility to present and discuss her/his work in the relevant research environments during the studies. This can be discussed by the PHD student, main supervisor and the research programme/department head. In case that the PHD student is not part of a research programme/unit, these activities can be arranged at the department.

Reg. the seminar

Two hours will be allocated for the seminar. **Two opponents – one local and one external** - will be invited to the seminar. Approx. two weeks before the seminar, the PhD student sends a written draft to the opponents which in accordance with the above mentioned guidelines and identifies the problems/issues which the PhD student wishes to discuss at the seminar. The PhD student and his/her supervisor agree on the quantity of text and its content to be sent to the opponents. It should be clear what each opponent should focus on. Usually, the seminar is chaired by the supervisor. Internal and external colleagues may be invited as desired.

Financing:

Internal opponents are allocated 10 hours for the WIP-seminar. The external opponent is offered an honorarium of DKK 3,000 as well as a refund of his/her travel expenses and accommodation, amounting to a maximum of DKK 2,000. The participation of the main supervisor and co-supervisor is covered by the hours allocated to them as supervisors.

Coffee/tea and biscuits may be ordered at the reception. Other catering expenses (or any social gatherings in connection with the seminar) will not be covered by the department.

Place:

WIP seminar is normally arranged on the campus, where the PHD student’s office is located.

It is up to the PhD student to make the necessary arrangements with the opponents and he/she should supply the departmental office, Maibritt Skovgaard Wraa Nielsen (mawn@edu.au.dk), with the information needed to remunerate the opponent, i.e. contact details and the hours or fees outlined above.