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# Doctoral School Ecology and Evolution Kick Off January 2021



## What is it all about? **Doctoral schools are the vehicle for promoting structured doctoral education.** We don't want to reinvent the wheel.

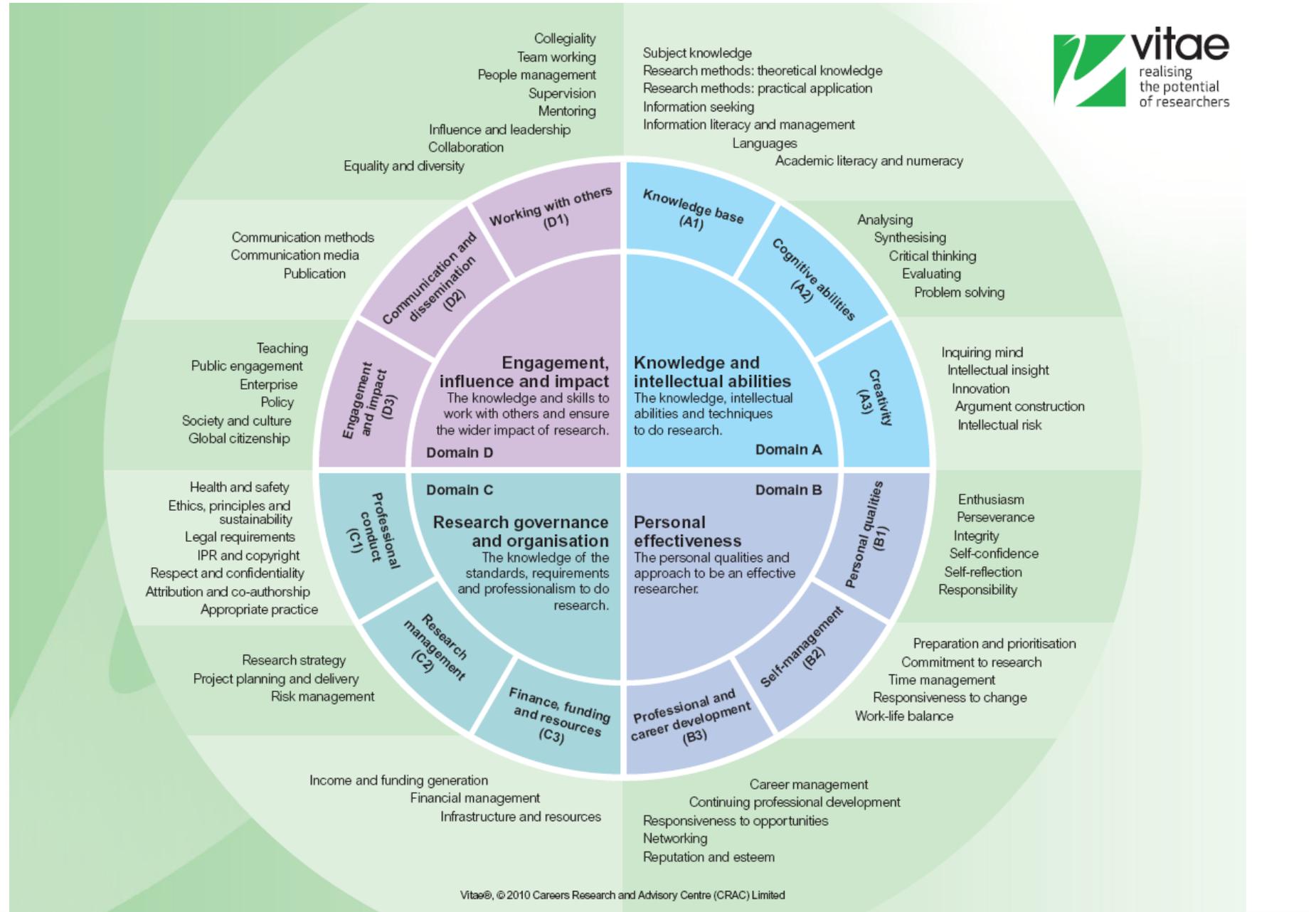
“A structured PhD generally includes the research training of a conventional degree, together with other elements that keep students on track and help to prepare them for a **variety of post-PhD careers**. Students have **multiple advisers** and administrators to guide them, receive **formal training in scientific and soft skills** and have opportunities for travel and interdisciplinary study. In principle, they receive **a broader education** than any single supervisor could provide.”

Cited from *Graduate students: Structured study*, Nature 493, 259-261 (2013)



Want to learn more about the skillset of a researcher?

Check out e.g. the **Researcher Development Framework**



## Expectations?

### What do we expect from the Doctoral School?

- To create an environment in which doctoral candidates can advance their exciting research projects
- To attract and nurture talents
- To focus on empowering the doctoral candidates and their professional and personal development
- To acknowledge that every doctoral experience is unique,
- To have simple, flexible, comprehensible and transparent procedures and structures in place
- To be available if problems or conflicts occur
- Last, but not least: to give candidates a strong voice

## Expectations?

### What do we expect from Supervisors?

- To build professional relationships
- To be available when needed and responsive
- To be enthusiastic about the doctoral researchers' work
- To be interested in and support career preparation of their candidates
- To allow space to experiment
- To reflect and share about their practice as supervisors

## Expectations?

### What do we expect from Doctoral Candidates?

- Ownership, for the project, for your professional development, for your career
- Engagement and dedication to gain knowledge, to complete work
- Enthusiasm and passion and a deep interest in the research
- Professional working habits
  
- Use this project as a springboard into further research and career opportunities
- Great doctoral experience so that in the future they recommend Vienna as the place to go for a PhD