

PhD Advisors' Role in Support Conversations

As PhD advisors, our primary responsibility is to support doctoral candidates throughout their academic journey. At the PhD candidate's request, and with the agreement of all parties involved, we may attend meetings with their supervisory team or colleagues to provide mental and emotional support.

Our role:

- We are not certified mediators and do not act as formal intermediaries or decision-makers.
- Our main focus is on the well-being and interests of the PhD candidate, whom we are there to support.
- While our presence is primarily for the benefit of the candidate, we are committed to fostering open, respectful, and constructive communication between all parties.
- We offer a listening ear and can assist the candidate in expressing their thoughts, concerns, and needs.
- We help to create a safe environment where the candidate feels heard and understood, and we encourage mutual understanding with the supervisory team.
- We may assist in clarifying misunderstandings and encourage a focus on solutions and positive outcomes.

If you would like us to be present during a meeting, please [inform us](#) in advance so we can discuss expectations and how we can best contribute to a productive conversation.