



Crisis intervention during your SNI PhD time

If you encounter problems during your time as an SNI PhD student, the SNI advises that you **act as early as possible**, before the problem turns into a crisis. Typical examples of problems are differing ideas of acceptable workloads, cultural and social issues, project planning, lack of guidance, and many more. Please consider the following check list more or less **in the given order and as early as possible**:

1. **Stay calm** and try to be objective, but **do not wait** until the problem becomes serious.
2. Talk to your **friends and colleagues**. You are probably not the first, nor the last with this issue.
3. Each SNI PhD student has **two project leaders**, preferably from different groups. They should be contacted first.
4. The University of Basel requires that a third supervisor is named in your learning contract. This person is called **"second supervisor"** in the contract because non-SNI students have only one supervisor. This person is required to be completely independent of the first two supervisors (e.g. never published together, etc.). This person should be approached first in case of problems with the first two supervisors. This is NOT to be confused with the PhD referee board that will judge the work at the end of the PhD work.
5. Next you should contact the **head of the SNI PhD school** (Andreas Baumgartner) who can be contacted about pretty much any issue.
6. Most SNI PhD students have a very good relation with the **staff of the SNI**, which is very efficient in finding solutions to personal or administrative issues. Try to talk to them as often as possible, e.g. at events like the PhD school BBQ or the SNI annual general assembly and contact them at any time.
7. For more serious, or possibly more general problems, you can then also contact the **SNI director** (Martino Poggio) personally.
8. **General help**, e.g. with **raising children** while working on your PhD, **psychological counseling** or in case of **sexual harassment** there are specialized offices at the University of Basel:
<https://www.unibas.ch/en/Studies/Advice/Social-Services-Healthcare.html>

The University of Basel provides additional help and advice:

9. Documents and contacts by GRACE on **personal and scientific integrity and diversity** ([long Link](#))
10. For **mediation** between disputing parties, **counseling**, etc., but still without lawyers, please contact the **"ombudsman's office"**:
<https://www.unibas.ch/en/Staff/Advice-Conflicts/Ombudsman-s-Office.html>
This is fully confidential and independent of research groups etc.
11. If you require legal advice, please contact the **"legal services"** of the University of Basel:
<https://www.unibas.ch/en/University/Administration-Services/General-Secretariat/Legal-Services.html>