



Structured supervision of doctoral studies in the IMPRS-ESM

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In the International Max Planck Research School on Earth System Modelling (IMPRS-ESM) the Advisory Panel (AP) system is the central tool for structured, continuous supervision of doctoral studies. Each IMPRS-ESM doctoral student is accompanied by an AP of three scientists: 'Principal Advisor', 'Co-advisor', and 'Panel Chair'. The IMPRS-ESM Executive Committee appoint, in consultation with the Principal Advisor, the AP for each student. AP and student meet twice (at least once) a year to discuss the research progress, the remaining work, and the time frame. The AP will adjust plans where necessary. The AP Chair reports to the Executive Committee.

The IMPRS-ESM was initiated in 2002; we established the Advisory Panel System in 2005. Our 1st assessment is suggesting that the AP system is effective in reducing the duration of PhD studies while maintaining high academic quality. Evaluating the AP system our alumni acknowledge its positive effect on focus and efficiency of their doctoral research.