

MOD - TRANSMISSION OF TACIT SKILLS
IN EAST ASIAN GRADUATE SCIENCE PROGRAMS



**Qualitative Interview
Question Guide for Taiwanese Advisers**

(*To be recorded using a Digital Voice Recorder)

Respondent ID: _____

Country: _____

Name of Respondent: _____

Email: _____

Nationality: _____

Gender: _____

Department: _____

University: _____

Job Position:

- Full professor
- Associate professor
- Assistant professor

Interviewer: _____

Date of Interview: _____

Time Started: _____

Time Finished: _____

INTERVIEWER: Good morning. My name is _____, a professor at Texas A&M International University in Laredo, Texas, USA /Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana, USA. I am here to interview you on topics pertaining to your graduate education, training, mentoring experience, research practice and activities. I would like to get your permission to record this interview using a digital voice recorder. Rest assured that all information you provide will be treated confidentially. In the transcription of this interview, no identifying information will be stored or used in the analysis, publication or presentation results. Once transcription has been validated, audiotapes and/or storage media will be erased.

(**Note for Interviewer:** Before starting, please make sure that respondent had signed an informed consent form, which should have been accomplished during the quantitative face-to-face interview).

TOPICAL AND GUIDE QUESTIONS:

Item 0: NAME, AFFILIATION, AND INTRODUCTION

Please state your name, position, and affiliation.

[[NOTE TO THE INTERVIEWER: This item is important as it will allow us to link the digital file stored in the digital voice recorder to the actual qualitative questionnaire]]

Item 1: MOTIVATION TO PURSUE GRADUATE STUDIES

What made you decide to pursue graduate studies?

[[PROBE: How did you decide which department or which university to pursue your graduate studies? Who were the people who influenced -- directly or indirectly -- you to pursue graduate studies?]]

Item 2: YOUR LAB

Please tell me how this lab works, such as meetings, supervisions, personal relationships, and so on.

[[PROBE: Please describe what you do in this laboratory. How often do you hold meetings? Please describe to me how the meetings are run. Do you supervise anyone? If so, who? Please describe how you supervise your research staff and graduate students.]]

Item 3: LIKES ABOUT THE LAB

What do you like about this laboratory? Why?

[[PROBE: What would you say are the strong points of this laboratory compared to others in this university and Taiwan in general?]]

Item 4: DISLIKES ABOUT THE LAB

If any, what do you dislike about this laboratory? Why?

[[PROBE: What would you say are the weak points of this laboratory compared to other in this university and Taiwan in general?]]

Item 5: YOUR GRADUATE STUDENT

Think of your ‘star’ graduate student/s, and please tell me what makes him/her/them excellent graduate research student/s?

Now, think of your students who may not make it through the Ph.D. program. Could you tell me what makes them particularly problematic?

Item 6: RESEARCH PRODUCTIVITY

What does it mean to be a productive researcher in your department? How about in your field of study?

[[PROBE: How is research productivity measured? What incentives are there for researchers to be productive?]]

Item 7: SCIENTIFIC COLLABORATION

Please tell me about the people you collaborate with. What makes them good collaborators?

[[PROBE: what are the traits of a good collaborator? Is it the norm in your field to collaborate? What are advantages and disadvantages of collaborations?]]

Item 8: LAB SKILLS

How did you learn the laboratory skills and techniques needed in do your research?

[[PROBE: Who would be the most instrumental person/s in developing your skills and competencies as a researcher? Formal/informal learning experiences]]

Item 9: DIGITAL TECHNOLOGIES

What kinds of information and communication technologies (e.g. email, Internet, cellular phones, and other technologies) are useful to your research? Please describe their uses?

[[PROBE: How do these digital technologies impact on learning new skills and techniques, networking, and collaborating with other researchers in the fields? How do these technologies change the way you do your research?]]

Item 10: ANYTHING ELSE YOU WOULD WANT TO SHARE WITH ME

Is there anything else you would want to share with me as regards your experiences in training graduate students and future scientists?

THANK YOU VERY MUCH!

[[NOTE TO INTERVIEWER: Please make sure to close and save the digital recording for this session, and take note of the following pieces of information as stored in your recorder.]]

Digital voice recorder no.: _____

Folder: _____

File No.: _____